ORATOR HENLEY.

PORTRAITS, MEMOIRS,

AND

Characters,

OF

REMARKABLE PERSONS,

FROM THE

REVOLUTION in 1688

TO THE

END OF THE REIGN OF GEORGE II.

COLLECTED FROM THE MOST AUTHENTIC ACCOUNTS EXTANT.

BY

JAMES CAULFIELD.

IN FOUR VOLUMES.

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MEMOIRS

OF

REMARKABLE PERSONS.

Orator Henley.

[GEORGE II.

JOHN HENLEY, better known by the appellation of Orator Henley, was born at Milton Mowbray, Leicestershire, August 3d, 1692. His father, the Reverend Simon Henley, and his grandfather by his mother's side, were both vicars of that parish. His grandfather, by his father's side, John Henley, M. A. was likewise a clergyman, rector of Salmonby and Thetford, in Lincolnshire, was educated among the dissenters, and conformed at the restoration.

The orator was bred up first in the free-school of Milton, under Mr. Daffy, a diligent and expert grammarian. From this school he was removed to that of Okeham, in Rutland, under Mr. Wright,

eminent for his knowledge of the Latin, Greek, and Hebrew languages. About 1709, he entered St. John's-college, Cambridge, where, on his examination by Dr. Gower, then master, Dr. Lambert, Dr. Edmundson, and others, he was, according to his own account, particularly approved. While an under-graduate at St. John's, he wrote a letter to the Spectator, dated from that College, February 3, 1712, signed Peter de Quir, abounding with quaintness and local wit. He began here to be very uneasy, and was more inclined to dispute than to assent to any points of doctrine; and already fancied himself able to reform the whole system of academical education.

After he had commenced his degree of Bachelor of Arts, he was first desired by the trustees of the school in Milton to assist in, and then to take the direction of, that school; which he increased, and raised from a declining to a flourishing condition. He established here, he informs us, a practice of improving elocution, by the public speaking of passages in the classics, morning and afternoon, as well as orations, &c. Here he was invited, by a letter from the Rev. Mr. Newcome, to be a candidate for a fellowship in St. John's; but, as he had long been absent,

and therefore lessened his personal interest, he declined appearing for it. Here likewise he began his "Universal Grammar," and finished ten languages, with dissertations prefixed, as the most ready introduction to any tongue whatever. In the beginning of this interval he wrote a poem on "Esther," which was approved by the town, and well received, as indeed it amply deserved. It is preceded by a learned preface, in which he discovers an intimate knowledge of Oriental studies, and some learned etymologies from the Persic, Hebrew, and Greek, concerning the name and person of Ahasuerus, whom he makes to be Xerxes. On the occasion of his "Grammars," Dr. Hutchinson wrote him a complimentary letter. He was ordained a deacon by Dr. Wake, then Bishop of Lincoln; and, after having taken his degree of M. A., was admitted to priest's orders by Dr. Gibson, his successor in that see. He did not long consent to rest in the country, but, impatient to obtain wealth and fame in London, resigned his offices of master and curate, and entered upon a new career.

In town he produced several publications; as, Translations of Pliny's Epistles; several works of

Abbé Vertot; of Montfauçon's Italian Travels, in folio, and many other books. His principal patron was the Earl of Macclesfield, who gave him a benefice in the country, the value of which, to a resident, would have been about eighty pounds a-year; he had likewise a lecture in the city; and, according to his own account, preached more charity-sermons about town, was more numerously followed, and raised more for the poor children, than any other preacher, however dignified or distinguished. This popularity, with Henley's enterprising spirit, and introducing regular action into the pulpit, were "The true causes," he says, "why some obstructed his rising in town, from envy, jealousy, and a disrelish of those who are not qualified to be complete spaniels. For there was no objection to his being tossed into a country benefice by the way of the sea, as far as Galilee of the Gentiles, like a pendulum swinging one way as far as the other." Not being able to obtain preferment in London, and not choosing to return into the country, he struck out the plan of his Lectures, or Orations, which he puffed with an astonishing vulgarity of arrogance, as may be seen in the following specimen:—

"That he should have the assurance to frame a

plan, which no mortal ever thought of; that he should singly execute what would sprain a dozen of modern doctors of the tribe of Issachar; that he should have success against all opposition; challenge his adversaries to fair disputations, without any offering to dispute with him; write, read, and study twelve hours a-day, and yet appear as untouched by the yoke, as if he never wore it; compose three dissertations each week, on all subjects, however uncommon, treated in all lights and manners, by himself, without assistance, as some would detract from him; teach in one year what schools and universities teach in five; offer to learn—to speak, and—to read; not to be terrified by cabals, or menaces, or insults, or the grave nonsense of one, or the frothy satire of another; but he should still proceed and mature this bold scheme, and put the church, and all that, in danger."

In this style Henley lectured on Sundays upon theological matters, and on Wednesdays upon all other sciences. He declaimed some years against the greatest persons; and, occasionally, says Warburton, did Pope that honour. The poet retorted upon him in the well-known lines:—

"But where each science lifts its modern type,
History her pot, Divinity his pipe;
While proud Philosophy repines to show,
Dishonest sight! his breeches rent below;
Imbrown'd with native bronze, lo Henley stands," &c.

Orator Henley endeavoured, on all popular occasions, to render himself particular, and caught at even the most trifling incidents to excite the public attention. Dr. Cobden, one of George the Second's chaplains, having, in 1748, preached a sermon at St. James's from these words: "Take away the wicked from before the king, and his throne shall be established in righteousness;" it gave so much displeasure, that the doctor was struck out of the list of chaplains; and the next Saturday, the following parody of his text appeared as a motto to Henley's advertisement:—

"Away with the wicked before the king,
And away with the wicked behind him;
His throne it will bless
With righteousness
And we shall know where to find him."

Hogarth has more than once indulged the vein of his humour at Henley's expense. In a print entitled the Oratory, Henley is represented on a scaffold, a

monkey (over which is written amen) by his side; a box of pills and the Hyp-doctor lying beside him; over his head, "The Oratory."—*Inveniam viam aut faciam*, (the motto on the medals which the orator dispersed as tickets to his subscribers.) Over the door, "*Ingredere ut proficias;*"—The inscription over the outer door of St. Paul's school. A parson receiving the money for admission; under him, "The Treasury;" a butcher stands as porter. On the left hand, Modesty in a cloud; Folly in a coach; and a gibbet prepared for Merit. People laughing;—one marked the scout introducing a puritan divine; and a boy easing nature. Several grotesque figures, one of them (marked TEE HEE) in a violent fit of laughter; underneath the following inscription:—

An extempore Epigram, made at the Oratory:—

"O, Orator! with brazen face and lungs,
"Whose jargon's form'd of ten unlearned tongues,
"Why stand'st thou there a whole long hour haranguing,
"When half the time fits better men for hanging!"

Henley was too good a subject to part with easily, and we find him a second time brought into notice, in the act of christening a child, represented in a print, with the following verses under it:—

"Behold Vilaria, lately brought to bed,
Her cheeks now strangers to their rosy red,
Languid her eyes, yet lovely she appears!
And oh! what fondness her lord's visage wears!
The pamper'd priest, in whose extended arms
The female infant lies, with budding charms,
Seeming to ask the name ere he baptize,
Casts at the handsome gossips his wanton eyes,
While gay Sir Fopling, an accomplished ass,
Is courting his own dear image in the glass:
The midwife busied, too, with mighty care,
Adjusts the cap, shews innocency fair.
Behind her stands the clerk, on whose grave face
Sleek Abigal cannot forbear to gaze:
But master, without thought, poor harmless child,
Has on the floor the holy-water spill'd,
Thrown down the hat; the lap-dog gnaws the rose;
And at the fire the nurse is warming clothes.
One guest inquires the parson's name;—says Friendly,
Why, don't you know, Sir?—'tis Hyp-doctor Henley."

Mr. Nichols, in his biographical anecdotes of Hogarth, has clearly ascertained that the clergyman in the Modern Midnight Conversation was intended to represent Orator Henley; and to degrade him still more, he is introduced drinking gin with a prostitute and female robber, in the last plate of his Harlot's Progress, while attending, in his clerical character, the ceremony of the funeral.

Orator Henley struck medals, which he dispersed as tickets to his subscribers, representing a star rising

to the meridian, with this motto, "ad summa;" for each of these the price was one shilling. His audience was generally composed of the lowest ranks; and it is well known, that he once collected a vast number of shoe-makers, by announcing that he could teach them a speedy mode of operating in their business, which proved only to be the making of shoes, by cutting off the tops of ready-made boots. His motto on this occasion was, "Omne majus continet in se minus." He was author of a weekly paper of unintelligible nonsense, called "The Hyp-Doctor," for which secret service he had 100*l.* a-year given him, and which was intended to counteract the effect of the "Craftsman," a proof how little his patron, Sir Robert Walpole, knew of literary assistance. Henley used, every Saturday, to print an advertisement in "The Daily Advertiser," containing an account of the subjects on which he intended to discourse on the ensuing evening, at his Oratory near Lincoln's-inn-fields. The advertisement had a sort of motto before it, which was generally a sneer at some public transaction of the preceding week. Henley died Oct. 14, 1756.

A late reviewer of the life of this extraordinary man says, "He was a scholar of great acquirements, and of no mean genius; hardy and inventive; eloquent

and witty; and might have been an ornament to literature, which he made ridiculous; and the pride of the pulpit, which he so egregiously disgraced; but having blunted and worn out that interior feeling, which is the instinct of the good man, and the wisdom of the wise, there was no balance in his passions, and the decorum of life was sacrificed to its selfishness. He condescended to live on the follies of the people, and his sordid nature had changed him till he crept licking the dust with the serpent." In his account of himself he assumes the credit of considerable learning, and a strong zeal for knowledge; which, at one time, certainly was the case, but his talents became miserably perverted; both his style and his thoughts were low; vanity and censoriousness are the most conspicuous qualities he exhibited; and his manners became gross and ferocious, and entirely corresponded with his writings.

FLORENCE HENSEY, M.D.

Florence Hensey.

Florence Hensey was born in the county of Kildare, in Ireland. When very young he came to England, and soon after went over to Holland; and was educated in the university of Leyden. His natural parts were rather phlegmatic than sprightly; and he made greater advances in physic, and the laborious sciences, than in polite literature. He afterwards travelled in *Switzerland*, and continued some time at *Berne*, from whence he went to Italy. On leaving Italy he sailed from *Genoa* to *Lisbon*, and journeyed through Spain in his way to France. By these travels he gained a competent knowledge of *Italian*, *Portuguese*, and *Spanish;* and his residence for some years at Paris enabled him to speak and write the *French* tongue with great fluency.

During his time abroad, he supported himself in quality of a physician, and came over to England in hopes of settling here in that character; but either he had not interest, or merit, to recommend him, for we cannot learn that he had any patients of consequence,

though some of his prescriptions were the means of his detection. Having continued a literary correspondence, since he left the university, with a fellow-student who resided at Paris and had lately got into the secretary of state's office for foreign affairs, he wrote to him a more than usual complimentary letter, informing him, in general terms, "he should be glad of an opportunity of doing him any service that lay in his power, and executing any commission he might have in London," which general invitation his correspondent shrewdly construed into a desire of commencing a criminal correspondence; but as he did not think proper to hazard any communications until such time as he should be convinced of the doctor's real intentions, he wrote word back, "that he was infinitely obliged to him for the service he offered, and that if he understood him rightly, their correspondence might be rendered more advantageous to both, by changing their topics from literary to political." The doctor replied, "he was glad to find so discerning a man in his fellow-student, and if he could obtain for him a recompense suitable to the trouble, he would endeavour to make his intelligence of the utmost importance." By the next post he received an answer, containing instructions, directions, and an

appointment of 500 livres (about 25*l.* sterling) a quarter. The instructions were, to send lists of all our men-of-war, in and out of commission: their condition, situation, the number of men on-board each; when they sailed, under what commanders, from what ports, and their destinations: accounts of the actual number of our troops, what regiments were complete, and which were recruiting; where they were quartered or garrisoned; the earliest accounts of any enterprises against France; plans of fortified places in England, America, &c. The directions were of those persons to whom he was to send under cover; some at *Cologne*, some at the *Hague*, and some at *Bern*, in Switzerland; and they were to forward his letters from those respective places to *Paris*. Though the doctor was far from being satisfied with this stipend, he nevertheless thought proper to accept it, in hopes by his merit to obtain a greater salary. With this view he endeavoured to insinuate himself into the good graces of some of the clerks in our offices, in hopes by their means to gain intelligence of what was transacting concerning naval and military affairs. But not finding in them any such treacherous disposition as animated him, he, after some fruitless efforts, gave over the attempt, fearing their zeal might

induce them to make a discovery of any hints he might give of his design; so that we do not find he had any connection with the clerks in our offices, as some persons have supposed.

But we find, that being frustrated in this project, he used to frequent all the political coffee-houses about town. He commonly passed hours in silence at *Toms's* in *Devereux-court;* the largeness of his peruke, and the sanction of doctor, rendering him unsuspected among the medical gentlemen that resorted there. He often pushed himself into the back-room at *Old Slaughter's;* and picked as much prejudice, and ill-natured remarks, upon the situation and conduct of our affairs as replenished a sheet for next post. He plied at the *Mount*, under pretence of reading the *Hague Gazette*, though he had got it by heart before at the *Exchange*. He was a constant customer at the *St. James's* or the *Smyrna* on a council-day; and never failed being at the *Cocoa-tree* after the house was up. By these means he got acquainted with many particulars, that remained perfect secrets to us a long while. It is confidently asserted, that it was resolved in council, so late as the 24th of July, to attack *Rochefort*, and that his letter of the 29th of the same month particularly mentioned this resolution;

and that General Mordaunt and Admiral Hawke were at that time unacquainted with the intent. He never entered into any political controversies; but when there was an absolute necessity of giving his opinion, he always decided in favor of England; so that, though a papist, he was never suspected by those he conversed with; nor was he supposed guilty of any illegal practices in the house where he lodged, having appointed a coffee-house near St. Clement's church for the receipt of his letters, under a fictitious name.

He had continued his correspondence from the beginning of the year 1756, without any material interruption, writing upon the margin of a newspaper such news and observations as were not there contained; in this manner the examiners of the post-office were deceived, and let these letters pass, imagining there was nothing more contained than the newspaper. At length his employers complained of the insignificancy of his intelligence, and the necessity there was of extending his plan, otherwise they would discontinue his appointment; and actually threatened to deduct a guinea for every letter that did not contain some advice of importance. This letter, which was transmitted from *Paris* by the *Hague*, contained

nothing seemingly but a few wide lines, written upon the most trifling, complimentary subject; and was therefore re-sealed and conveyed to him by means of the fictitious direction. An answer to this came from him, which was sent by *Holland*, to *Paris*. This letter of the Doctor's, which then appeared upon examination to be nothing but an answer to the compliments, contained (as since has been found, by the copies he kept by him) a representation of the small income, which was not sufficient to make him neglect his practice, and such company as proper intelligence was to be obtained from. These wide-wrote letters had their desired effect, by passing unnoticed for some time at the post-office; at length the secretary suspecting there must be something more contained than these corresponding trifles, held one to the fire, when many lines, written with lemon-juice, between the black ones plainly appeared. This letter, which was dated from *Twickenham*, after giving a very exact account of the state of our finances, the condition of our fleet and army, their disposition, how many ships guarded, and how many soldiers lined the coasts of England, concluded with asserting that the only means of preventing the success of the expedition (to Rochfort) would be to make a powerful diversion upon the

coast of England, with a considerable force; that by thus attacking us in our very vitals, we might be engaged at home, and be prevented from sending a number of troops abroad sufficient to give them any real annoyance. The discovery of this letter unravelled the whole mystery of all the former; henceforth all letters directed as before were stopt, and those that came from abroad were intercepted. The real person to whom they were directed was soon discovered, and his haunts were as soon known. Being a papist, he never failed going to one of the ambassador's chapels on a Sunday; and as the Spanish minister's in Soho-square was that which he most usually frequented, a secretary-of-state's warrant being issued for his apprehension, he was way-laid coming from thence by two of his Majesty's messengers on Sunday, the 21st of August, 1757; and after being dodged to two houses in Dean-street, and from thence to the Montpellier coffee-house, facing Greek-street, where he dined, he was seized in St. Martin's-lane, and conducted to the house of one of the messengers in Jermyn-street.

As soon as he was secured, his lodgings, at Mr. Blount's, Arundel-street, in the Strand, were searched, where they found in his bureau twenty-nine rough draughts of letters; also his correspondence from his

employers; all written with lemon-juice between the black lines. In those he had received from abroad were complaints of the insignificance of his intelligence, and how they were better served by a person who lived (or had lived) at Colchester: that there was no need of acquainting them with what the Duke was doing in Germany, they being much earlier and better informed than he could instruct them. They likewise contained instructions, how to write with greater safety and dispatch, by means of directing all the important letters to his brother, who served in the double capacity of chaplain, and under-secretary to the Spanish minister at the Hague. These instructions he closely followed, as appeared by the rough draughts of his letters, which lately contained more important intelligence, as well with respect to the disposition of our fleets and armies, as to the secrets of the cabinet, which is surprising how he could obtain; nor can it be otherwise accounted for than by his frequenting such coffee-houses where it is supposed subjects of this nature were usually most spoken of. It appears he gave intelligence of Admiral *Holbourne's* destination to America, a few days after the admiral's instructions were signed; and was particularly minute with respect to the number of ships and troops on-board, with the

day of their departure, &c. This improvement in his intelligence is to be attributed to the increase which his salary now received; for instead of five hundred livres a quarter, he was promised that sum every month; and was also given to understand, that if there were any hopes of procuring intelligence of great consequence, not to spare expense, as he might assure himself of all possible encouragement. But this rich endowment was of short duration; for he received merely one month's salary before he was taken into custody, when his poverty was so great that all his cash, both in his pocket and his bureau, did not amount to a guinea.

During his confinement at the messenger's he was particularly reserved, very seldom entering into any conversation, and never mentioning any thing relative to his own affairs. This precaution was of very little use, as he afterwards found; but he all along imagined that proceedings against him would not be carried to any great extreme, and that he could, by the intercession of friends, procure a mitigation of his punishment; but, alas! his friends were like most others, merely temporary; his coffee-house acquaintance all disowned him; and those persons who had been connected with him were, through

necessity, obliged to be evidences; otherwise they would have been guilty of misprision of high-treason, and liable to have suffered accordingly. The facts were too glaring to suffer him to escape with impunity; and it was high time to make an example of some, to deter others from the same practices. On his examinations before the secretary-of-state, he made the most trifling excuses: pretending his ignorance of the consequences of his conduct, though, at the same time, he was conscious of the enormity of his offence, by actually inviting and counselling the *French* to make an invasion on England. He was committed to Newgate on Wednesday, the 9th of *March*, by the Right Honorable the Earl of *Holdernesse*, one of his majesty's principal secretaries-of-state, being charged with high-treason, in adhering to, and assisting, the king's enemies. If his finances were low at the time of his being taken into custody, they were at a still greater ebb at the time of his commitment, after near seven months confinement at the messenger's, during which time he had more than exhausted the small remains of his stock for superfluities; in fine, he found himself under the necessity of pawning his sword for a guinea, to pay garnish, and was much

in arrears for the room in the press-yard, which he was to pay five shillings a week for. His confinement in Newgate all along resembled that at the messenger's; and he scarce spoke to any but his confessor, who frequently visited him.

He was indicted at Easter-term, in the 31st of George II., the solicitor of the treasury being prosecutor for the crown; and the indictment was found at Westminster, by the grand inquest for the county of Middlesex. The same being returned to *Banco Regis*, he was brought from Newgate that term to the bar of the court, and arraigned for high-treason, in adhering to the king's enemies, and carrying on, by letters, a treasonable correspondence with one *La Roche*, and P. de *France*, as appeared by the answers he received from these French correspondents; to which he pleaded not guilty. A copy of the indictment being delivered to him, the court ordered him to prepare for his trial, on Monday, the 12th of June following.

He was, in consequence, on the 12th of June conducted from *Newgate* in a hackney-coach, the irons which he wore being taken off; and, between nine and ten o'clock that morning, brought into the court of *King's-bench* by *Mr. Richard Akerman*,

head-keeper of *Newgate*, in whose custody he was; when, after the usual forms for silence, &c. the jury being called, the prisoner was arraigned on the indictment. He stood charged by the name of *Florence Hensey*, doctor of physic, late of the parish of *St. Clement Danes*, in the county of *Middlesex*, with being a "traitor to his country, and not obeying the duty of his allegiance to our Sovereign Lord George the Second, King of *Great Britain, France* and *Ireland*, &c. In the months of May and June, 1757, and at divers other times, as well before as after, in the parish aforesaid, and county aforesaid, with force and arms, feloniously, traitorously, and of his malice aforethought, did write certain letters to the agents and subjects of *Lewis*, the French king, with whom we are now at open war, giving an account of the strength of our fleets and armies that were then preparing in *Great Britain;* and inviting the said *Lewis*, the French king, his subjects and vassals, to invade these realms, and to make a most bloody slaughter on his majesty's subjects."

To this indictment he pleaded *Not guilty*, objecting to eleven of the jury before they came to be sworn; and, having finished his challenges, a special jury was summoned, composed of twelve gentle-

men of great property in the county of Middlesex. The counsel for the crown opened the indictment, by setting forth that "the prisoner at the bar, though a subject of this realm, and living under the protection of its laws, had for a considerable time past held a treasonable correspondence with the enemies of our gracious Sovereign Lord the King, and stood accused of other high crimes and misdemeanors. They further set forth, that the prisoner had solicited for a pension from the French ministers, in order, as far as lay in his power, to betray the secrets of our Sovereign Lord the King; and give such intelligence to his said enemies of the destination of his majesty's fleets, and number of ships they were composed of, and by whom commanded; as also of the number of troops in *Great Britain*, and the English colonies abroad, whereby any design to annoy the enemies of these kingdoms might be frustrated, his majesty's territories invaded, and even his sacred life endangered; as it is reasonable to conclude, from his known valor and love for his subjects, he would head his own troops in so perilous and critical a situation. That, as to the crime for which he stood indicted, it was as much more fatal in its consequences than an act

of open rebellion, as the power of a whole nation was superior to that of a single person."

The counsel then proceeded to shew, that notice having been received by the government of such treasonable correspondence, messengers were sent to apprehend the prisoner, who found in his bureau copies of twenty-nine letters of intelligence, which he sent to *France;* some being of the most dangerous tendency, not only giving advice of our fleets and armies, their destination, but also advising a descent on this island, in order effectually to prevent our successes abroad.

The witnesses were then examined:—

The servant-maid at Mr. Blount's, and another witness, (his washerwoman,) proved that he lodged in a room up one-pair of stairs at Mr. Blount's, and that the bureau, in which the letters were found by the messengers, was in the prisoner's said room. The prisoner's counsel remarked, in regard to this evidence, "That as the house was a common lodging-house, and at that time full, those papers and letters might have been put in by some other person, Mrs. Blount, the landlady, having a key to the same." But this objection was soon set aside, by its being proved

that the key Mrs. Blount, the landlady, had in her possession, could not open the upper part of the bureau where these papers were; but only the drawers of the under part of the bureau, where the doctor's linen was.

The identity of the hand-writing was the principal point to be proved, which was done by several credible witnesses; namely, Mr. *Mendez*, on whom he had various bills of exchange; Dr. *Wilbraham*, of *Westminster*, and several apothecaries, who had received prescriptions from the doctor, for patients under his care, which they had kept on their files.

A point of law was argued by the prisoner's counsel, concerning a flaw in the indictment; as they asserted all the letters read in court were written in London, and intercepted at the general post-office, in Lombard-street; and that, therefore, the indictment could not be laid in Middlesex; but it appeared one of these letters was dated at Twickenham, and the court in consequence over-ruled this opposition. Various points of law being now started by the counsel for the prisoner, to oppose the proof of the overt-act of high-treason, they endeavoured to insinuate, that holding a correspondence with the king's enemies was not in itself high-treason; and that

if it were, as he had not actually corresponded with them but in *Holland*, *Germany*, and *Switzerland*, which were not parts of the dominions of the *French* king, he could not be found guilty of the crime for which he was indicted. But the sophistry of these arguments was easily combated by the counsel for the crown, who made it plainly appear, that these letters were not written to those persons to whom the outside superscription was addressed, but directed to them to be forwarded to *Paris;* that the correspondence itself did not only render him guilty of treason, but also the nature of the correspondence, by which he adhered to assist the king's enemies.

Lord Mansfield made a very candid and judicious recapitulation of the various points upon which the evidence turned, remarking, at the same time, that though clemency was one of the most god-like attributes of humanity, it was necessary the gentlemen of the jury should consider the heinousness of the crime, and the credibility of the witnesses, and then let their consciences give the verdict.

Dr. Hensey had hitherto supported himself with courage; but, during the absence of the jury, which was about three-quarters of an hour, he trembled excessively, and repeatedly changed colour, while large

drops of perspiration ran down his face; and the agitation of his mind was so great that he burst into tears. On the return of the jury, he had scarcely strength to hold up his hand at the bar. A verdict of *Guilty* being pronounced, a rule of court was made for his being brought up to receive sentence on the Wednesday following.

While Lord Mansfield was pronouncing sentence, on the appointed day, the convict shed tears, turned pale, and trembled exceedingly; and, after sentence, he begged a fortnight to make proper preparation for his death; but the court generously granted him a month.

Early on the morning on which he was to have been executed, a respite was received, and afterwards a reprieve during the king's pleasure. He continued after this above three years in Newgate; and then embarked for France, on obtaining a free pardon. It was presumed, that the political reason for respiting Dr. Hensey, arose from a view to discover his accomplices, if he had any; but as no such discovery was ever made, it is but reasonable to suppose that the favor shewn him arose from a different cause.

At the time Hensey was apprehended, his brother was secretary and chaplain to the Spanish

ambassador at the Hague. To this brother he wrote an account of his misfortunes; in consequence of which, the Spanish ambassador at London was applied to, by the gentleman in a similar office at the Hague; and such representations were made to the English ministry, that the reprieve above-mentioned followed; though King George the Second could not be prevailed on to grant him a free pardon. It was only after the accession of his late gracious majesty George the Third, that Dr. Hensey obtained his full pardon, when, on giving the usual security for his good behaviour, he was discharged.

WILLIAM KITCHENER,

(Beadle of Saffron Hill, Hatton Garden, & Ely Rents.)

William Kitchener.

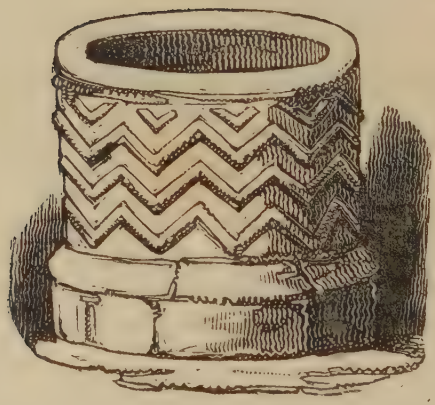
THIS conceited coxcomb had the vanity to cause his effigy to be engraved and handed down to posterity, recording that "William Kitchener enjoyed the very important office of beadle, for the liberty of Saffron-hill, Hatton-garden, and Ely-rents, all in the parish of St. Andrew's, Holborn." Mr. Kitchener had the singular generosity at the festive season of Christmas to pay his personal respects to every housekeeper within his diocese or liberty; and on receiving the customary tribute of the ordinary fees on the occasion, would present them with a copy of his likeness, with the following complimentary lines:—

"My worthy masters of this liberty,
To your good ladies and posterity
A merry Christmas, plenty and good cheer,
Health, wealth, prosperity, and a happy year."

It is probable he united with his office of beadle, that of bellman to the parish; and was no way disposed to drop the customary mode of composing

annual poetry, which, from its elegant style and metre, was doubtless the offspring of his own prolific brain. William Kitchener flourished his beadle's staff about the beginning of the reign of George the Second. He is represented in the print, with his staff in one hand and his wish in the other, importing

God bless my masters
And their wives,
From all disasters
Shield their lives.



SIMON LORD LOVAT,

(Beheaded 1747.)

Simon Frazer,

LORD LOVAT.

LORD LOVAT was a nobleman of uncommon abilities, and refined education; but the whole of his conduct through life was of that unaccountable nature that distinguished him from every other person of his time: among many other glaring faults, insincerity, and want of principle, were the particular marks of his character.

Having addressed the heiress of Lovat in 1693, a marriage might have ensued, but that the lady was engaged to Lord Saltoun's son. On this Lovat took some of his dependants to the house of that nobleman, and having caused a gibbet to be erected, swore he would hang the father and son unless all pretensions to the young lady were resigned. This was complied with through terror, and even the contract of marriage given up. The next object was to seize the young lady's person; but was disappointed, by her mother, a widow lady, having effectually secreted her.

Foiled in his purpose, he resolved upon revenge, and going to the house of the mother, with a clergyman, and attended by several armed ruffians, he compelled the old lady to marry one of the persons that accompanied him. Such being done, he cut off her stays, and obliged her to go to bed; while he, with his associates, waited till the consummation of this forced marriage.

For this infamous transaction, Lovat was tried, as an accessary to the rape, and was capitally convicted; but received a pardon from the lenity of King William the Third. In 1698 he went to France, and turned papist, by which he acquired the good opinion of King James the Second, who employed him to raise recruits in Scotland; but he revealed the substance of his commission to the British ministry; which circumstance being discovered by some Scotch catholics, an account of it was transmitted to France; so that, on his next visit to that country, in the year 1702, he was lodged in the Bastile, where he continued some years; when at length obtaining his liberty, he went to St. Omer's, where he entered into the order of Jesuits.

Returning to Scotland on the demise of Queen Anne, he succeeded to the title of Lovat, to which a

good fortune was annexed; but, in the following year, when the Pretender landed in Scotland, he for a while abetted his cause; when, on finding his interest decline, he raised a regiment in opposition to him. This latter part of his conduct coming to the knowledge of King George the First, Lovat was sent for to court, where he was highly caressed.

At the time he was supporting the rebellion of 1745 with men and money, the Lord President Forbes wrote to him, and conjured him, in the most earnest way, to take a decisive and vigorous part in behalf of government; and Lovat answered him in such a manner, as seemed to assent to all he urged; though, at this very time, the men he had sent to assist the rebels were commanded by his own son. He was apprehended in his own house, some days after the battle of Culloden, by a party of dragoons: but, being so infirm that he could not walk, he was carried in a horse-litter to Inverness, whence he was sent in a landau to Edinburgh, under the escort of the same party. Having been lodged one night in the castle, he was conveyed to London, and committed to the Tower, only two days before Kilmarnock and Balmerino suffered the dreadful sentence of the law. Several of the witnesses, whose presence was judged

necessary on the trial of Lord Lovat, residing in the north of Scotland, it was thought proper to postpone it till the commencement of the following year; and he was accordingly brought to his trial before the house of peers in Westminster-hall, on the 9th of March, 1747, Lord Chancellor Hardwick presiding on the solemn occasion.

On the first day of the trial, Lord Lovat objected to a witness, because he was his tenant; but his competency to give his deposition being allowed, after a long argument, he deposed that his lordship had been active in raising supplies for the Pretender, who had made a descent on the kingdom in consequence of his advice. This was the substance of the first day's proceedings; and a great part of the second was spent in debates respecting the admissibility of Mr. Murray, who had been secretary to the Pretender, as an evidence. It was urged that his evidence could not be allowed, as he stood attainted; but the attorney-general having read the record of the attainder, and produced the king's pardon, all further objections fell to the ground. On the following day, Mr. Murray was examined, and proved that Lord Lovat had assisted the rebels with men and money; and that he had commissioned two of his sons to cause his tenants to

take arms in behalf of the Pretender. Lord Lovat's servants proved that the Pretender had been assisted with money by his lordship; and, on the fourth day, several gentlemen from the Highlands gave their testimony to the same purpose.

The evidence for the crown being summed up on the fifth day, Lord Lovat was acquainted by the lord-high-steward that he must prepare for his defence; and accordingly, on the sixth day, his lordship insisted that the parties who had given evidence against him were his enemies, and that they had been induced to give their testimony by threats of subornation; and he endeavoured to support his allegations by the depositions of two Highlanders; but what they said had little influence against the concurrent testimony of the other witnesses. The peers, being assembled in parliament on the seventh day, determined on their verdict; and, having returned to Westminster-hall, the culprit was informed by the lord-high-steward, that he had been found guilty by his peers. To this Lovat said, that he had been ill-treated while under misfortunes; and this he declared with so much acrimony, that the high-steward reproved him for the indecency of his behaviour, and then passed the sentence of the law.

After conviction, Lord Lovat behaved with uncommon cheerfulness, appearing by no means intimidated at the fate that awaited him: his friends advising him to apply for the royal mercy, he declined it, saying, that the remnant of his life was not worth asking for. He was always cheerful in company; entertained his friends with stories, and applied many passages of the Greek and Roman histories to his own case. On the arrival of the warrant for his execution, Lord Lovat read it, and pressing the gentleman who brought it to drink a bottle of wine with him, entertained him with such a number of stories as astonished the visitor, that his lordship should have such spirits on so solemn an occasion. The major of the Tower inquiring after his health one morning, he said, "I am well, Sir; I am preparing myself for a place where hardly any majors go, and but few lieutenant-generals." Having procured a pillow to be placed at the foot of his bed, he frequently kneeled on it, to try how he should act his part at the fatal block; and, after some practice, thought himself sufficiently perfect to behave with propriety. Waking about two in the morning on the day before his death, he prayed devoutly for some time, and then slept till near seven, when he was dressed by the assistance of the warder. This day

he spent with his friends, conversing cheerfully both on public and private affairs. He was even jocose in a high degree, and told the barber who shaved him to be cautious not to cut his throat, which might baulk many persons of the expected sight on the following day. Having eaten a hearty supper, he desired some veal to be roasted, that he might have some of it minced for his breakfast, being a dish of which he was extremely fond: he then smoked a pipe, and retired to rest.

Waking about three in the morning, he employed some time in devotion; and then reposing himself till five o'clock, he arose, and drank a glass of wine and water, as he was accustomed to do every morning. He then employed himself about two hours in reading, which he could do without spectacles, notwithstanding his advanced age, for he had lived a life of temperance, and his eye-sight was uncommonly good. He now conversed in the customary manner, exhibiting no sign of apprehension; and at eight o'clock sent his wig to the barber: he also desired the warder to purchase a purse, to receive the money that he intended for the executioner; and he particularly desired that it might be a good one, lest the man should refuse it. The warder bringing two purses, his lordship took one,

which though he did not entirely approve of, he said few persons would refuse with ten guineas for its contents.

Having called for his breakfast of minced veal, he ate heartily of it, and drank some wine and water, to the health of his surrounding friends. The coffin, with his name and age, and decorated with ornaments proper to his rank, being placed on the scaffold, Mr. Sheriff Alsop went to the gate of the Tower at eleven o'clock, to demand the body. This intelligence being conveyed to Lord Lovat, he requested a few minutes for his private devotions; which being acceded to, he returned cheerfully, and said, "Gentlemen, I am ready;" and having descended one pair-of-stairs, General Williamson requested him to repose himself a few minutes in his apartment. Complying with this invitation, he staid about five minutes, behaved with the utmost politeness to the company, and having drank a glass of wine, got into the governor's coach, which conveyed him to the gate of the Tower, where he was received by the sheriffs. Being conducted to a house near the scaffold, he told the sheriff "he might give the word of command when he pleased; for (added he) I have been long in the army, and know what it is to obey." Having drank some

burnt-brandy and bitters, he ascended the scaffold, and taking a survey of the surrounding multitude, expressed his astonishment that such numbers could assemble to witness the decollation of so ancient a head.

Observing a friend on the scaffold who appeared very desponding, he put his hand on his shoulder, and said, "Cheer up thy heart, man; I am not afraid, and why should'st thou? if you do not, and I am able to rise again, I shall be much displeased with you." He now sat down on a chair, and having repeated some sentimental lines from the classic authors, he stripped himself, and laid his head on the block. After a few minutes spent in devotion, he dropped his handkerchief, on which his head was cut off; and being received in a cloth of red baize, was put into the coffin with the body, and conveyed to the Tower in a hearse.

Immense crowds of spectators were on scaffolds on Tower-hill, to behold the final exit of this extraordinary man, but some of them suffered for their curiosity; for, before he was brought out of the Tower, one of the scaffolds broke down, by which several persons were killed on the spot, and a great number had their bones broken, and were otherwise terribly

bruised, to the distress of many families, and the total ruin of others. Thus was this man, whose life had been a scene of tyranny, and perfidious duplicity, the occasion of injuring many others, almost in the moment of his death.

Lord Lovat was beheaded on the 9th of April, 1747. Beside his legitimate children, his lordship left a son, Col. Frazer, of whom there is a portrait, engraved by Worlidge.

CAPT.n JAMES LOWRY.

Captain James Lowry.

Captain Lowry appears to have been one of the many who might have passed quietly through life, but, from becoming slaves to the intemperance of violent passions, too frequently precipitate themselves in consequences, equally, if not more calamitous, in tendency, than to the innocent victims of their culpability.

He was indicted at the sessions of the high-court of Admiralty, held in the Old Bailey, February 18, 1752, for the murder of Kenith Hossack, mariner. It appeared, from the evidence of James Gatherah, chief-mate, that, on the 28th of October, 1750, he set sail from Jamaica in the Molly, a merchant-ship, commanded by the prisoner, with fourteen men on-board; that, on the 24th of December following, between four and five in the afternoon, he came upon deck, and saw the deceased, Kenith Hossack, seized, or tied up, one arm to the halliards, and the other to the main shrouds, and the prisoner beating him with a rope about an inch and a half thick, called a crot-

ched brace; that he went forward with his business, and returned about five, when the deceased, to relieve the operations of nature, begged he would let him down; the Captain being then below, the witness went to him, and obtained permission, but withal, orders that he should be almost immediately seized up again. When the deceased was let down, he was not able to stand, but lay and crawled upon deck, of which he informed the captain, who said, "*D——n the rascal, he shams Abraham,*" so seize him up again; and consequently he was tied up a second time, though not so fast as before, which the captain observing, ordered him to be seized, with his arms extended to the full stretch. The prisoner then took the rope and doubled it, and, with the bite or double of the rope, beat him on the back, breast, shoulders, head, face, and temples, for nearly half-an-hour, walking about during intervals to take breath. It was near six o'clock, when the captain, observing that the deceased appeared motionless, ordered him to be cut down, and called to witness, and said, "I am afraid *Kenny* (for so the deceased was called by the ship's crew) is dead;" when he replied, "*I am sorry for it, I hope not.*" Witness then went to the deceased to feel his pulse, but could find none; he also placed

his hand to his breast, and not discovering any pulsation, observed, "*I am afraid he is dead, indeed!*" on this the prisoner struck the deceased slightly on the face, and cried, "*D——n him, he is only shamming Abraham now.*" A sail was then brought, and the deceased was carried in it down to the steerage, where the captain whetted a pen-knife, and the witness opened a vein, but there was no issue of blood. The deceased, prior to this, was gradually recovering from the effects of a tedious and severe fever, and though not capable of going aloft, yet he could do many things about the vessel.

On being asked if there had been any quarrel or dispute between him and the prisoner, before or since the death of *Hossack?* answered, there had been frequent disputes, for the captain had treated him, and every person on-board, in a very cruel and tyrannical manner during the whole voyage.

In answer to the question, whether the prisoner did not use the men with great humanity and tenderness? he replied, "that his conduct to the whole crew, excepting James Smart, was invariably most inhuman and despotic;" and, in corroboration, he mentioned several instances of his barbarity.

Lowry here complained to the Court, that he was

not confined till several days after the death of Hossack; and that Gatherah, who was at the head of the conspiracy, seized the ship, altered her course, and carried her to Lisbon, where they were all apprehended, and sent home by the English consul for piracy; and that the crew had sworn this murder, to prevent him punishing the witness and the rest for mutiny.

The Court demanded of Gatherah the reason (the murder being committed on the 24th of December,) he did not confine the prisoner until the 29th. He observed, that after the death of Hossack, the men on-board were very uneasy about the murder, and were for confining the captain; but he (the witness) represented to them, that, as the ship was very leaky, so as to require two pumps to be kept going night and day, and the men sickly, they could not spare one hand that was able to work; that the captain, so long as he was on-board the ship, was perfectly secure; and that the fate of Hossack would, no doubt, influence him to treat them better during the remainder of their voyage; and that they could, on their arrival in England, bring him to that punishment he merited. To this proposal they all agreed; but instead of the prisoner's behaving better, in two

or three days he went on as before, having broke the finger of one man, and bit another man's so dreadfully, that he was advised by the witness to let him cut it off. At another time, he fractured the skull of one man with his great cane; another he beat very severely on the side, and, if he had disabled one man more, in all probability the whole must have perished. On this they resolved to deprive him of his command, and confine him, but so that he had the use of his cabin, and might come on the quarter-deck whenever he pleased. He had a light in his cabin, that he might know at any time what course was steered. The log-book was shown to him every day as soon as it was made up. Such was the leaky condition of the vessel, and the despair of the men, that expecting she must go down before the rising of the morrow's sun, and that a watery grave awaited them, they abandoned the pumps, resigned themselves to the Divine will, and took an affectionate farewell of each other.

By the witness's persuasions they were induced to take to the pumps again; and, with the prisoner's advice, they made for Lisbon, where they arrived on the 13th or 14th of January. On reaching the rock of Lisbon, they hoisted a signal for a pilot, and a fishing-boat came with one; yet, as they had no

product, they were not allowed to come in, but compelled to anchor where they were. By this pilot the captain sent a letter to the British consul, with a complaint against the ship's company, and they were presently put under arrest; soon after which, the consul came on-board, examined them, and re-instated the prisoner again in his ship, when the witness, with the rest of the crew, was put on-board a man-of-war, and sent home to England.

This witness further said, that in his examination before the consul, he had given the same account of the murder as he had now done; and when on-board the man-of-war, they were not treated as prisoners, but worked in the ship during the passage, in the same manner as the ship's company did. On their arrival in England, they were put into the custody of the marshal of the Admiralty, not as close prisoners, but allowed to go and return as they pleased, without a keeper: and that they looked on themselves, in their confinement, not as under an accusation of mutiny and piracy, but as witnesses against the prisoner.

Captain Lowry here desired that the log-book of the 29th of December might be read, to show they were guilty of mutiny and piracy, when it appeared:

"December 29. Unanimously agreed to confine the captain, and make the first port."

The prisoner then demanded of the witness, if he did not see Roberts, the second mate, beating him; and if he did not part them? The witness answered, he certainly saw the prisoner and Roberts engaged, and that he took the prisoner off him as they were down together; but this was after the prisoner was deprived of his command, and that he had committed the aggression by knocking Roberts down. As to the prisoner's charge that Roberts sold rum to the people, whereby they got drunk and neglected their duty, the witness knew nothing of, and indeed they could not well get drunk, for the prisoner would not allow them what was their due.

Several of the crew gave their evidence, all in support of that given by Gatherah; and among them James Smart, a foremast-man, who, being questioned by the prisoner, whether he was not always tender of his men, when they were sick? answered, that to him indeed he was very kind; but used him bad enough when he was well, as he did every one on-board the ship.

Being asked by the Court, whether he thought the usage the deceased received from the prisoner was

the cause of his death? ànswered, as they all had done, he did believe it was, and would have killed him had he been in health and strength, or the stoutest man living.

Captain Lowry, in his defence, attributed the charge against him to proceed from a conspiracy among his crew, and observed, he had not been long at sea before he discovered he had got a set of the most wicked, drunken, idle fellows, that ever came into a ship, of which he informed Captain Dalton of the Nancy, who left Jamaica in his company; but who did not appear at his trial. He said, he had no witnesses to call, but thought the log-book would be sufficient to support what he had said in his defence, as the witnesses, who had sworn against him, had sworn with halters about their necks, in order to screen themselves from their wicked acts of mutiny and piracy, well knowing, that if he escaped, they must be hanged. He then proceeded to call several gentlemen in testimony of his character, some of whom were tradesmen, others who had sailed with him, and many who had known him for several years, all which gave him the character of a good-natured humane man.

Mr. Stone, the Marshal of the Admiralty, was then

called upon, and deposed, that, on the 7th of March last, he received a warrant from the Lords of the Admiralty to apprehend the prisoner. Upon inquiry he found the ship was not come home: that when he received intelligence of her being in the river, he went thither, and was informed the prisoner had quitted the ship on coming into the Downs, and had gone to London by land. He made diligent inquiry after him, but so ineffectually, that upon receiving a reprimand from the Lords of the Admiralty, they thinking he had neglected to take him, he advertised ten guineas reward for his apprehension, which was paid to the person that discovered him.

The judge having summed up the evidence, the jury withdrew, and, in about half-an-hour, returned with a verdict, guilty, DEATH.

He was executed pursuant to his sentence, and hung in chains, by the river's side.

Ranald Macdonald.

THIS young Scotchman was nearly related, if not brother, to the celebrated Flora Macdonald, who made herself so conspicuous by her attachment to, and following the fortunes of, the second Pretender, in the year 1745. The rebellion was greatly accelerated in Scotland, by the severity with which government treated the Highland regiment that deserted from Highgate, under an impression, that after having been the instruments in disarming their northern brethren, their services were to be rewarded by being disbanded and draughted into different regiments, far removed from their native country. Four of these unfortunate men were shot in the Tower of London, as an example; and several others underwent a less severe punishment. The Scotch nation felt bitterly the affront put on it, and induced many, who otherwise would at least have remained neuter, to flock round the young Pretender; and among many others was Ranald Macdonald, the whole of whose known personal history is comprised in

RANALD Mc DONAND.

the inscription under his portrait, drawn and engraved by a Scotch artist, named Robertson. It informs us :—

" That Ranald Macdonald, of Bellinfag, in Benbicula, at the age of eighteen, being grievously wounded and stripped in the battle of Culloden, remained about two-and-twenty hours in the open air; but at length safely escaped by the humanity (then a very rare quality,) of a person named James Hamilton, an Irishman, and lieutenant of the Cholmondeley Legion, having, in the mean time (I shudder at the mention of it) seen his wounded fellow-soldiers murdered in cold blood, and most wretchedly butchered on all sides, so that the earth was defiled with the slaughter. Monstrous and horrible *atrocity!*"

The above inscription is in Latin, and is curious, from the peculiar circumstances of many of the words being contracted, and these contractions being represented by figures, in order (perhaps) to give a partial concealment of their obvious meaning, inasmuch as it so freely speaks of the butcheries which were practised after the battle of Culloden.

The wanton and savage treatment of the unfor-

tunate wounded rebels in this battle, created a heavy odium and reflection on the person and character of the old Duke of Cumberland, who had the chief command; and, to the present day, in Scotland he is stigmatized by the appellation of BILLY THE BUTCHER.

The family of Macdonald to a man was in the interest of the Pretender; Ranald Macdonald joined him soon after he came to Scotland, and received a captain's commission. He was educated by an uncle, who told him he would tarnish the glory of his ancestors, who had been warmly attached to the cause, if he failed to act with courage. Macdonald was ever foremost where danger presented itself; he was particularly distinguished at the battle of Preston-pans, and joined with Lord Nairn, in taking possession of Perth; services that greatly recommended him to the Pretender.

Macdonald was exceedingly assiduous to learn the art of war, and made himself of so much consequence as to be intrusted with the command of two thousand men. The Duke of Perth having ordered two men, who refused to enlist, to be shot, Macdonald complained to his uncle, who had likewise

a command in the rebel army, of the injustice of this proceeding; but the uncle ordered the nephew into custody, and told him that he should be shot on the following day; and actually informed the Pretender of what had passed. Macdonald, however, was only reprimanded, and dismissed, on promise of more cautious behaviour in future. He proceeded with the rebels as far as Derby; but, when they returned to Carlisle, he was taken into custody, and sent with other prisoners to London, in order to take his trial.

After his commitment to prison, he frequently wished that he had been shot. Being advised to repent, he said it would be fruitless, and he should like still to hear a tune on the sweet bag-pipes, that used to play before the army. He often told the keepers of the prison, that, "If they would knock off his fetters, and give him a pair of bag-pipes, he would treat them with a Highland dance."

He said he thought the Pretender's service very honorable, when he first engaged in it, which he would never have done, had he been aware that he was so ill provided for the expedition. He likewise expressed the utmost resentment against the French king, for not sending them assistance.

Being brought to trial, with two others, they were found guilty, and executed on Kennington-common, the 22d of August, 1746.

The portrait of Ranald Macdonald, which is very uncommon, is in the collection of John Goodford, Esq., of Yeovil, Somersetshire.

SARAH MALCOLM.

Sarah Malcolm.

Sarah Malcolm was of honest and respectable parentage, in the county of Durham. Her father had an estate (according to her account,) of about 100*l.* a year, but her mother, being an Irishwoman, prevailed on her husband to visit Dublin, where he settled, and purchased a public place in that city, with the remnant of money he had saved from the sale of his estate; Sarah, being an only child, received a good education in reading, writing, and such other learning proper for a female above the lower order. She lived with her father and mother almost to woman's estate, and was noticed for her sprightly temper. Her parents, however, having some affairs which brought them to London, were accompanied by their daughter, who, some time after, went to service, and lived in several good families, performing her duty to the satisfaction of her employers. Her father, in consequence of his business, returned to Dublin, and took his wife with him, where they both shortly after died.

Sarah was now left to her own discretion, when forming some acquaintance, she obtained a situation as one of the laundresses, or char-women, of the Temple, where she attended some gentlemen for a considerable time. Before this, she was in a situation at a place called the Black Horse alehouse, where she became known to Mrs. Tracey, and likewise to the two brothers, Thomas and James Alexander.

Among other persons Sarah Malcolm occasionally did char-work for, was Mrs. Lydia Duncomb, a widow lady, about eighty years of age, who had lived forty years in chambers, four pair of stairs high, in the Inner Temple; she had one maid, Elizabeth Harrison, who had been with her many years, and was grown old in her service, for she was about sixty, and very infirm: but though she was now past labour, the good lady, (who was bed-rid herself,) still retained her, in regard for her former faithful services, and hired others to do her work, which sometimes occasioned the service of Sarah Malcolm. About three months previous to the unfortunate catastrophe, Mrs. Duncomb had hired Anne Price, who was nearly seventeen years of age, to be a constant servant. Mrs. Duncomb had a middling fortune left her by her husband, and lived contented in peace with her two servants, until February

4, 1733, when they were all found murdered. The maid-servant, Ann Price, was supposed to have been murdered first, having her throat cut from ear to ear; but by her cap being off, and her hair much entangled, it was thought she had struggled hard with her murderer. It was conjectured her companion was strangled; though there were two or three wounds in her throat, that appeared as if they had been given by a nail. Mrs. Duncomb was probably smothered, and killed last, as she was found lying across the bed, with a gown on; the other two were in bed. A trunk in the room was broke open and rifled.

This barbarous fact remained undiscovered till Sunday noon, when Mrs. Love, who used to visit Mrs. Duncomb, came to dine with her. She found the door shut, and having no answer when she knocked, she concluded that the old maid was sick, and that the young one was sent out on an errand. After waiting a considerable time for her return, but to no purpose, she went down to Mrs. Rhymer, a friend of Mrs. Duncomb's, living likewise in the Temple,) and acquainted her with the circumstance, who came back with her to the door, but could gain no entrance. They began to think some misfortune

had happened; and meeting Ann Oliphant, a laundress, (whose master's chambers were opposite to Mrs. Duncomb's,) they persuaded her to get out of her master's garret-window, and so into Mrs. Duncomb's chambers. She did so, and opened the door to Mrs. Duncomb's friends, when, on entering, they discovered the bodies as already described.

About twelve o'clock the same night, Mr. Kerrel coming home, found Sarah Malcolm, who was his laundress, in his chambers; he was surprised at seeing her there at such an hour. He had heard of these murders, and that she had formerly chared for Mrs. Duncomb, whereupon he asked her if any person had been taken up on suspicion? She said, No. He told her, it was suspected the fact must have been done by somebody that was acquainted with the deceased; and, as he had heard that she had formerly attended there, she should continue no longer in his service, and therefore desired her to prepare for quitting him. Upon examining, he missed some of his clothes, when she confessed having pawned them. This made him more uneasy, and he resolved she should stay no longer: upon which she went down stairs. His suspicion caused him to search further,

and in the close-stool he found some linen, and a silver tankard, with the handle bloody. Looking under his bed, he found a shift and an apron all besmeared with blood. These discoveries gave him an extraordinary concern; he called the watch, and sent them after her: who found her sitting between two watchmen near the Inner Temple gate. When brought back to Mr. Kerrel's chambers, he shewed her the tankard and the linen, bloody as they were, and asked her if they were her's? She said, yes, and that the tankard was left her by her mother. The officers of the Temple carried her to the constable, by whom she was taken before Alderman Brocas, and committed to Newgate. On her trial, which took place February 23, 1733, Roger Johnson, one of the officers of Newgate, deposed, the prisoner was brought there on the 5th instant; that he had some knowledge of her before, as she used to come there to see one Johnson, an Irishman, who was convicted for stealing a Scotchman's pack. On seeing a room in which the debtors were, she asked if she might not be in that room; and being told it would cost her a guinea, and that she did not look like one that could pay so much; she said, if it were two or three guineas she could send for a friend that would raise the money. In consequence, suspecting she

had money secreted, he began to search her, when, under her cap, concealed in her hair, he found a bag of money, consisting of twenty moidores, eighteen guineas, five broad-pieces, a half-broad piece, five crowns, and two or three shillings, all of which she confessed to have taken from Madam Duncomb; but denied any participation in the murders. This testimony was corroborated by Mr. Alstone, who was placed in a dark place to note her conversation with the witness. Her examination and confession, taken on oath, February 6, before Sir Richard Brocas, Knt. was then read: who on oath saith, "That on Sunday morning last, about two o'clock, she, this examinant, was concerned with Thomas and James Alexander, brothers, and Mary Tracey, who murdered Elizabeth Harrison, Lydia Duncomb, and another person, whose name she, this examinant, does not at present know, on or about the time last-mentioned, in the Temple, in this city, which was done in the manner following:—that she, this examinant, had several conferences with the aforesaid persons, concerning the robbing of Mrs. Duncomb; and that about ten o'clock, on Saturday night last, James Alexander got into Mrs. Duncomb's chambers, and concealed himself under a bed till about two o'clock, when he opened her

chamber-door, and let the said Mary Tracey and Thomas Alexander into the said chambers; and, that she, this examinant, stood on the stairs as a watch, whilst they committed the said murders, and at the same time stole from out of the said chambers about 300*l.* in money, a silver pint-tankard, and a spoon, with divers other goods to a great value; which said money and goods were by the above said persons brought down to her, and then distributed in equal portions amongst them, between four and five o'clock on Sunday morning last past."

The prisoner, in defence, admitted she was accessary to the robbery, but was innocent of the murder; and gave the following particulars: "That she lived with Mrs. Duncomb about three months before she was murdered, and that the robbery was contrived by Mary Tracey, then in confinement, and herself, from her own vicious inclinations. Mrs. Tracey coming to her master, Mr. Kerrel, on the Sunday before the murder was committed, and he not being at home, they talked about robbing Mrs. Duncomb, when Sarah objecting to do it herself, the other proposed the two Alexanders to help them; and, in consequence, they all met the Friday following in Cheapside, when they agreed, on the next night, to put their

scheme into execution. Next day, being Saturday, Sarah went between seven and eight in the evening to see Mrs. Duncomb's maid, Elizabeth Harrison, who was very bad, and staid but a short time, having appointed to meet Tracey and the two Alexanders at ten o'clock; who, coming to the time, were impatient to go about it then." Sarah proceeds, "I told them I would go and see, and so I went up-stairs, and they followed: I met the young maid on the stairs with a blue mug; she was going for some milk to make a sack-posset, and asked me who those were that came after me? I told her they were people going to Mr. Knight's below. As soon as she was gone, I said to Mary Tracey, 'Now do you and Tom Alexander go down; I know the door is left a-jar, because the old maid is ill, and can't get up to let the young one in when she comes back.' Upon that they went down, and James Alexander,* by my order, went in

* A boy about seventeen years of age, living servant with a person who kept the Red-Lion ale-house at Bridewell Bridge, hearing it said, in his master's house, that Sarah Malcolm had given in an information against one Thomas and James Alexander, and Mary Tracey, said to his master, "my name is James Alexander, and I have a brother named Thomas, and my mother nursed a woman

and concealed himself under the bed; and, as I was going down myself, I met the young maid coming up again. Asking me if I had spoken to Mrs. Betty, I told her, no; though I should have told her otherwise, but that I was afraid of creating suspicion, in case of her being informed that I had not been there. I past her, went down to Tracey and Alexander, and afterwards to my master's chambers, and stirred up the fire. I staid about a quarter of an hour, and when I came back I saw Tracey and Thomas Alexander sitting on Mrs. Duncomb's stairs, and I sat

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where Sarah Malcolm lived." Upon this acknowledgement, the master sent to Alstone, turnkey of Newgate; and the boy being confronted with Malcolm, she immediately charged him with being concealed under Mrs. Duncomb's bed, previous to letting in Tracey and his brother, by whom and himself the murders were committed. On this evidence he was detained; and frankly telling where his brother and Tracey were to be found, they also were taken into custody, and brought before Sir Richard Brocas: here Malcolm persisted in her former asseverations; but the magistrate thought her unworthy of credit, and would have discharged them; but, being advised by some persons present to act with more caution, committed them all to Newgate. Their distress was somewhat alleviated by the gentlemen of the Temple society, who, fully convinced of their innocence, allowed each of them one shilling per diem during the time of their confinement.

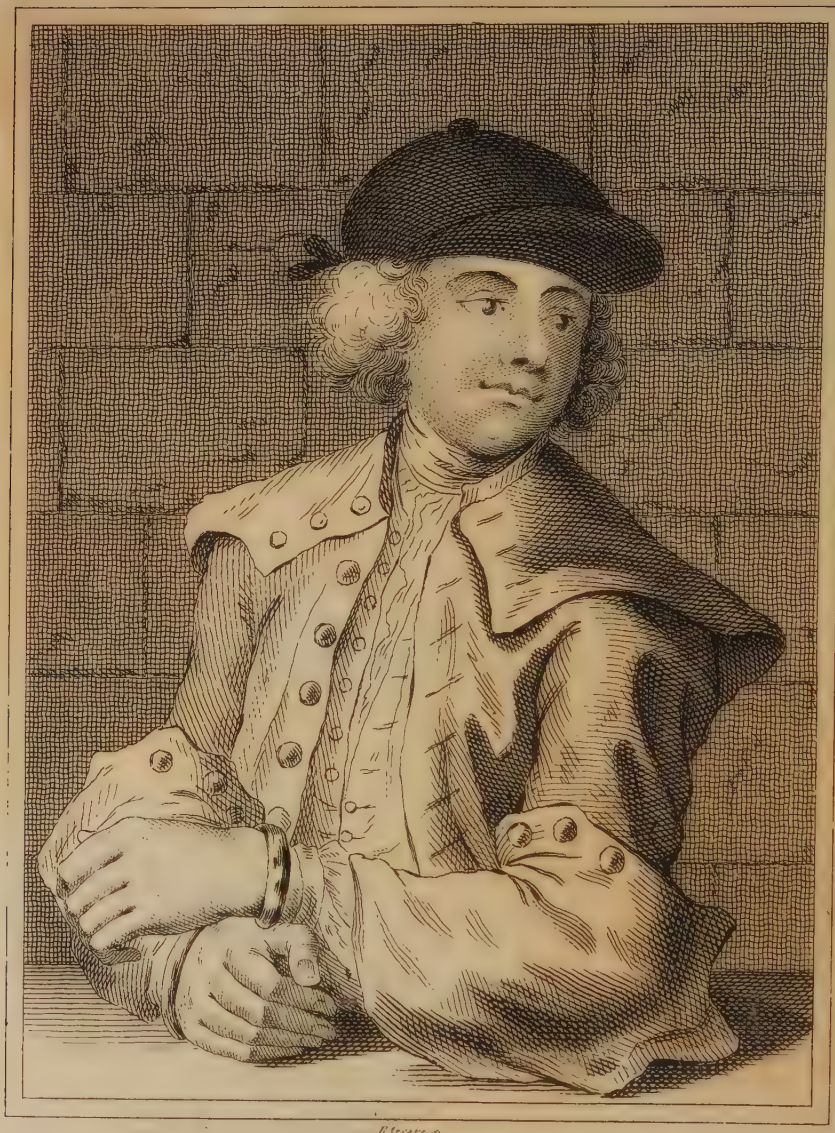
down with them. At twelve o'clock we heard some people walking, and by-and-by Mr. Knight came home, went to his room, and shut the door. It was a very stormy night; there was scarcely any person stirring abroad, and the watchmen kept up close, except just when they cried the hour. At two o'clock, another gentleman came and called the watch to light his candle, upon which I went further up-stairs, and soon after this I heard Mrs. Duncomb's door open; James Alexander came out, and said, 'Now is the time!' Then Mary Tracey and Thomas Alexander went in, but I staid upon the stairs to watch. I had told them where Mrs. Duncomb's box stood: they came out between four and five, and one of them called to me softly, and said, 'Hip! how shall I shut the door?' I replied, 'Tis a spring-lock; pull it to, and it will be fast;' and so one of them did. They would have shared the money and goods upon the stairs, but I told them we had better go down; so we went under the arch by Fig-tree Court, where there was a lamp. I asked them how much they had got? they said, they had found fifty guineas and some silver in the maid's purse, above 100*l.* in the chest of drawers, a silver-tankard, and in the box money, with several other things; so that, they obtained to

the value of about 300*l.* in money and goods. They told me they had been forced to gag the people; they gave me the tankard with its contents, and some linen for my share, and they retained a silver-spoon, a ring, and the rest of the money among themselves. They advised me to be cunning, and plant the money and goods under ground, and not be seen to be flush; then we appointed to meet at Greenwich, but I did not go. All that I have now declared is fact, and I have no occasion to murder three innocent persons by a false accusation; for I know I am a condemned woman, I know I must suffer an ignominious death, which my crimes deserve, and I shall suffer willingly. I thank God that he has granted me time to repent, when I might have been snatched off in the midst of my crimes, and without having an opportunity of preparing myself for another world."

The jury, after retiring for about a quarter of an hour, returned with a verdict of guilty.

She was executed on Wednesday, the 7th of March, 1733, in Fleet-street, near Fetter-lane, amidst an amazing concourse of spectators. At the place of execution, she appeared at first tolerably calm and serene; but afterwards fainted away from extreme agitation of spirits. Just before the cart drew away,

she looked towards the Temple, and cried out, "Oh! my master, my master! I wish I could see him;" and then looking up to heaven, often exclaimed, "Lord have mercy on me! Lord, receive my spirit!" so continuing until the cart withdrew from under her.



DANIEL MALDEN.

Daniel Malden.

DANIEL MALDEN was a native of Kent, and resided for some years at Canterbury, where he gained a tolerable livelihood as a postillion at one of the principal inns in that city. Here he married, and for a time appeared to live in the greatest harmony with his wife; but she turning out a complete virago, frequent quarrels arose between them, which generally terminated in blows. Rendered thus unhappy at home, Malden came to the determination of abandoning his wife, and Canterbury, and coming up to London to seek a situation. He had not, however, been long in town, before he fell into vicious company, and not meeting with immediate employment, betook himself to the practice of privately stealing, frequenting taverns and public ordinaries, where he would purloin silver-spoons, salts, tankards, and any other description of plate he could lay his hands on. In one of these speculations Malden was, for himself, most unfortunately detected in stealing a silver-tank-

ard, and, being conducted before a magistrate, was fully committed to Newgate, in order to take his trial.

Being tried at the Sessions-house in the Old Bailey, and found guilty on the clearest evidence, he received sentence of death, May 10, 1736. On the 14th of the same month, he, in company with six other prisoners, under sentence of transportation, found means to get down the common sewer; and four of them got up a vault in Fleet-lane, three of whom went through the shop and made their escape; the remaining one, however, was secured and carried back to Newgate. Among those that effected their escape was Daniel Malden; but his enlargement was of short duration, being soon retaken and conducted in safety to his former lodgings.

On Monday, the 4th of the following June, Malden made a second escape, by sawing his chains near the staple that fastened them to the floor of the condemned hold, and getting through the brickwork, dropt into the common sewer.—Several persons were employed to search after him, but to no purpose, though the chains about him weighed nearly one hundred pounds: in their search they found the bodies of two men, who, attempting to escape, in a similar manner, had been smothered.

This additional exploit of Malden's made considerable noise, and he was as much talked of as the famous Jack Sheppard. Notwithstanding that a description of his person, with the offer of a reward for his apprehension, was sent to every sea-port and public place in the kingdom, Malden continued undetected until Sunday, September 26th, following his last escape; when being at Canterbury, and quarrelling with his wife, to whom he had fled for safety, he was again secured, brought up under a strong guard to Newgate, and chained down in the hold, with such precaution as to make escape impracticable. On Friday, October 15th, he was arraigned at the bar of the Old Bailey, to receive his former sentence; and on Tuesday, the second of the next month, November, 1736, was executed with two other convicts, at Tyburn.

Mrs. Mapp,

THE FEMALE BONE-SETTER.

MRS. SARAH MAPP, a female of masculine habits, distinguished herself by some extraordinary cure she effected, merely resulting from personal courage.—She was called the bone-setter, or shape mistress. Her maiden name was Wallin. Her father was also a bone-setter, at *Hindon, Wilts;* but, quarrelling with him, she wandered about the country, calling herself *crazy Sally*. On her success in her profession she married, August 11, 1736, *Hill Mapp*, a servant to *Mr. Ibbetson*, mercer, on *Ludgate-hill*. In most cases her success was rather owing to the strength of her arms, and the boldness of her undertakings, than to any knowledge of anatomy or skill in chirurgical operations. The following particulars relative to her are collected from the *Grub-street Journal*, &c. and serve at least to shew, that she was a character considerable enough to deserve the satire of Hogarth.

August 19, 1736.—"We hear that the husband of

Mrs SARAH MAPP.

Mrs. Mapp, the famous bone-setter, at *Epsom*, ran away from her last week, taking with him upwards of one hundred guineas, and such other portable things as lay next at hand. Several letters from *Epsom* mention, that the footman, whom the female bone-setter married the week before, had taken a sudden journey from thence with what money his wife had earned; and that her concern at first was very great; but soon as the surprise was over, she grew gay, and seemed to think the money well disposed of, as it was like to rid her of a husband. He took just one hundred and two guineas."

The following verses were addressed to her in August, 1736:—

"Of late, without the least pretence to skill,
"*Ward's* grown a fam'd physician by a pill;
"Yet he can but a doubtful honour claim,
"While envious death oft blasts his rising fame.
"Next travell'd *Taylor* fill'd us with surprise,
"Who pours new light upon the blindest eyes;
"Each journal tells his circuit thro' the land;
"Each journal tells the blessing of his hand:
"And lest some hireling scribbler of the town
"Injures his history, he writes his own.
"We read the long accounts with wonder o'er;
"Had he wrote less, we had believ' him more.
"Let these, O *Mapp!* thou wonder of the age!
"With dubious arts endeavour to engage:

" While you, irregularly strict to rules,
" Teach dull collegiate pedants they are fools;
" By merit, the sure path to fame pursue;
" For all who see thy art, must own it true."

September 2, 1736.—" On Friday, several persons, who had the misfortune of lameness, crowded to the *White-hart Inn*, in *Whitechapel*, on hearing Mrs. *Mapp*, the famous bone-setter, was there. Some of them were admitted to her, and were relieved as they apprehended. But a gentleman who happened to come by, declared Mrs. *Mapp* was at *Epsom*, on which the woman thought proper to move off."

ADVERTISEMENT.

" *September* 9, 1736.

" Whereas it has been industriously (I wish I could say truly) reported, that I had found great benefit from a certain female bone-setter's performance, and that it was to a want of resolution to undergo the operation, that I did not meet with a perfect cure: this is therefore to give notice, that any persons afflicted with lameness (who are willing to know what good or harm others may receive, before they venture on desperate measures themselves) will be welcome

any morning to see the dressing of my leg, which was sound before the operation, and they will then be able to judge of the performance, and to whom I owe my present unhappy confinement to my bed and chair.

"*Thomas Barber, Tallow-chandler,*
"*Saffron-hill.*"

September 16th, 1736.—"On Thursday, *Mrs. Mapp's* plate of ten guineas was run for at *Epsom*. A mare called "*Mrs. Mapp*" won the first heat, when *Mrs. Mapp* gave the rider a guinea, and swore if he won the plate she would give him 100; but the second and third heats were won by a chesnut mare.

"We hear that the husband of *Mrs. Mapp* is returned, and has been kindly received."

September 23d, 1736.—"*Mrs. Mapp* continues making extraordinary cures; she has now set up an equipage, and on Sunday waited on her majesty."

Saturday, October 16, 1736.—"*Mrs. Mapp*, the bone-setter, with *Dr. Taylor*, the oculist, was at the play-house in *Lincoln's-inn-fields*, to see a comedy called 'The Husband's Relief, with the Female Bone-setter and Worm-doctor;' which occasioned a full house, and the following epigram:—

" While *Mapp* to th' actors shew'd a kind regard,
" On one side *Taylor* sat, on th' other *Ward:*
" When their mock persons of the drama came
" Both *Ward* and *Taylor* thought it hurt their *fame;*
" Wonder'd how *Mapp* cou'd in good humour be—
" Zounds! cries the manly dame, it hurts not me,
" Quacks without art may either blind or kill,
" But* demonstration shews that mine is skill."

And the following was sung upon the stage:—

" You surgeons of London, who puzzle your pates,
" To ride in your coaches, and purchase estates;
" Give over, for shame, for your pride has a fall,
" And the doctress of *Epsom* has out-done you all.
Derry down, &c.

" What signifies learning, or going to school,
" When a woman can do, without reason or rule,
" What puts you to nonplus, and baffles your art
" For petticoat-practice has now got the start.
Derry down, &c.

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* This alludes to some surprising cures she performed before *Sir Hans Sloane*, at the Grecian Coffee-house; (where she came once a week from Epsom, in her chariot drawn by four horses) viz., a man of *Wardour-street*, whose back had been broke nine years, and stuck out two inches; a niece of *Sir Hans Sloane* in the like condition; and a gentleman who went with one shoe-heel six inches high, having been lame twenty years of his hip and knee, whom she set straight, and brought his leg down even with the other.

" In physics, as well as in fashions, we find,
" The newest has always the run with mankind:
" Forgot is the bustle 'bout *Taylor* and *Ward;*
" Now *Mapp's* all the cry, and her fame's on record.
Derry down, &c.

" Dame nature has given her a doctor's degree,
" She gets all the patients, and pockets the fee;
" So if you don't instantly prove it a cheat,
" She'll loll in her chariot whilst you walk the street.
Derry down," &c.

October 19, 1736, *London Daily Post.*—" *Mrs. Mapp* being present at the acting of the *Wife's Relief*, concurred in the universal applause of a crowded audience. This play was advertised by the desire of *Mrs. Mapp*, the famous bone-setter, from *Epsom.*"

October 21st, 1736.—" On Saturday evening there was such a concourse of people at the Theatre Royal, in *Lincoln's-inn-fields*, to see the famous *Mrs. Mapp*, that several gentlemen and ladies were obliged to return for want of room. The confusion at going out was so great, that several gentlemen and ladies had their pockets picked, and many of the latter lost their fans, &c. Yesterday she was elegantly entertained by *Dr. Ward*, at his house in *Pall-mall.*"

" On *Saturday* and yesterday *Mrs. Mapp* performed several operations at the *Grecian* Coffee-

house, particularly one upon a niece of *Sir Hans Sloane*, to his great satisfaction and her credit. The patient had her shoulder-bone out for about nine years."

"On *Monday*, *Mrs. Mapp* performed two extraordinary cures; one on a young lady of the *Temple*, who had several bones out from the knees to her toes, which she put in their proper places: and the other on a butcher, whose knee-pans were so misplaced that he walked with his knees knocking one against another. Yesterday she performed several other surprising cures; and about one set out for Epsom, and carried with her several crutches, which she calls trophies of honour."

November 18, 1736.—"*Mrs. Mapp*, the famous bone-setter, has taken lodgings in *Pall-Mall*, near *Mr. Joshua Ward's*," &c.

November 25, 1736.

> "In this bright age three wonder-workers rise,
> "Whose operations puzzle all the wise;
> "To lame and blind, by dint of manual slight,
> "Mapp gives the use of limbs, and Taylor sight.
> "But greater Ward," &c.

December 16, 1736.—"On Thursday, *Polly*

Peachum, *Miss Warren*, (that was sister to the famous *Mrs. Mapp*) was tried at the Old Bailey, for marrying Mr. Nicholas; her former husband, Mr. Somers, being living."

December 22, 1737.—"Died last week, at her lodgings, near the *Seven Dials*, the much-talked-of *Mrs. Mapp*, the bone-setter, so miserably poor, that the parish was obliged to bury her."

Stephen Macdaniel.

STEPHEN MACDANIEL was one of those detestable villains that no epithet is vile enough to brand their infamy. This fellow, in conjunction with John Berry, James Egan, and James Salmon, followed the profession of swearing away the lives of innocent unsuspecting persons, for the sake of the reward given by government, for the conviction of capital offenders: —the young, friendless, and destitute, were sure to become their prey; and father and motherless lads, of from sixteen to eighteen years of age, were their most favourite game. This profitable merchandise was carried on for a series of years, undiscovered and indeed unsuspected. Macdaniel had kept a public-house, (the sign of the Angel) in Scroop's-court, facing St. Andrew's Church, Holborn, frequented mostly by thieves, thief-takers, women of abandoned character, and pick-pockets. It was during his residence in this house that he became acquainted with the thief-taker Berry, and shortly after adopted the

STEPHEN MACDANIEL,

(Thief Taker.)

same profession; and, when thieves sufficient could not be found to answer the purpose of these industrious gentlemen, rather than be idle, they furnished a few thieves of their own manufacturing.

Two lads, named Ellis and Kelly, were unfortunate enough to be seduced, and drawn into the toils of the thief-takers, by a kind of underling, or scout, they employed, called Thomas Blee. This Blee prevailed on the two boys to accompany him on a scheme he pretended of stealing linen; but this was merely a device to lead the lads to an adventure, already planned to entrap them, and ensure the reward. James Salmon, a breeches-maker, one of the confederates, was the person fixed upon to be robbed; and the place appointed was between New-cross turnpike and Deptford, to entitle them to an additional reward offered by that parish. Every thing succeeded agreeable to the plan proposed; Salmon was met on the road by Blee, Ellis, and Kelly, and robbed of a bundle containing a pair of leather-breeches, and from his waistcoat-pocket a clasp-knife, a tobacco-box, two shillings and sixpence, and a pocket-piece. Blee now takes the lads with him into the Borough, and safely lodges them in Kent-street; and the following morning leads them to the

Spread-eagle public-house, where he had agreed with Macdaniel, Berry, Salmon, and Egan, to meet and take them: first, however, taking care to secure his own retreat. It happened that Mr. Joseph Cox, chief-constable of the lower half-hundred of Blackheath, received information that a breeches-maker had been robbed in the parish of Deptford, by three footpads, and that two of them were taken by Macdaniel and others, and sent to Maidstone-gaol; and that the third person concerned in this robbery was Tom Blee, who had frequently been seen in company with Macdaniel.

Mr. Cox, with laudable anxiety for Blee's apprehension, resolved to proceed in search of him himself, and, after two or three days looking about, he very fortunately, with the help of a constable, took him into custody, very early in the morning of the 9th of August, 1754, in Newgate-street. He conveyed him directly to the water-side, in order to carry him to Greenwich; when, as soon as he had got him into the boat, he said he would discover all he knew concerning the robbery of the breeches-maker. Mr. Cox and the constable advised him not to divulge any thing in presence of the waterman, but reserve what he had to say until he went before a magistrate;

when, being taken to Justice Bell, at Greenwich, he made a full and clear confession of the whole nefarious transaction, from the beginning to the end.

As soon as the confession of Blee was taken and sworn to, Mr. Cox was advised to attend the trial of Ellis and Kelly, and not to discover he had Blee in custody till after the trial. Mr. Cox accordingly went to Maidstone, taking Blee with him still in custody, and arriving there in the night, stopt short of the town, leaving him in safe keeping, while he attended the trial the following day; but nobody knew that Blee was in custody, or so near the town. Henry Serjeant, a constable of Deptford parish, was employed to conduct Ellis and Kelly to Maidstone-gaol, and, while on the road, they told him Tom Blee was concerned with them in the robbery, where he lived, and what sort of clothes he wore; this he took down in writing, and shewed it to Justice Bell on his return from Maidstone, who desired him to go and take him. Serjeant replied, he would give directions to a thief-catcher, and applied to one Ralph Mitchell; but he refusing to act in it, Mr. Cox was informed of the circumstance, and lost no time in accomplishing Blee's apprehension. On the trial of the two lads, Ellis and Kelly, Macdaniel,

Salmon, and Egan, severally gave evidence, but Berry did not appear in Court. The circumstance of the robbery being clearly proved, and the prisoners not being able to deny the leading facts, were found guilty. But immediately after the trial, the whole gang of blood-money gentry was taken into custody, by virtue of a warrant sent purposely down to Maidstone, by the magistrate of Greenwich, Colonel Bell, who had kept the confession of Blee, and his detention in custody, a secret.

At the following Old Bailey sessions, Macdaniel, Berry, Egan, and Salmon, were indicted as accessaries, before the felony was committed, in feloniously and maliciously abetting, assisting, counselling, hireing, and commanding Peter Kelly and John Ellis to commit a robbery on the highway. There was a second count in the indictment, as an offence at common law.

Joseph Cox produced a copy of the record of the conviction of Peter Kelly and John Ellis, and swore he had it of Mr. Knapp's clerk, with whom he examined it with the record, the purport of which is, "That Peter Kelly and John Ellis were tried the 13th of August, 1754, at Maidstone assizes, before Sir Dudley Rider, Knt. and Sir Michael Foster, Knt.

for the said robbery on the defendant Salmon, and found guilty."

Thomas Blee being sworn, developed the whole of the abominable transaction, and being corroborated by several other witnesses, in respect of the close connection and subsequent conduct of the defendants, the jury found the whole four guilty of all the facts charged in the indictment; but, whether the facts charged were within the 4th and 5th statutes of Philip and Mary they knew not, and therefore prayed the assistance of the Court, so it was made special.

This special verdict was afterwards argued by counsel before the twelve judges, at Serjeants'-inn-hall, in Chancery-lane. Their lordships being of opinion, that the facts charged were not within the statutes of the 4th and 5th of Philip and Mary, and the 3d and 4th of William and Mary; an order was given that they should be indicted for a conspiracy, in which the facts with which the prisoners were charged might be more clearly explained; and they to receive such punishment as might be inflicted on them by law.

Accordingly, February 28, 1755, they were again arraigned at the sessions at the Old Bailey, in the

mayoralty of Slingsby Bethel, Esq., upon an indictment for combining and conspiring together, that one Thomas Blee should procure two persons, namely, Peter Kelly, and John Ellis, to go to Deptford in Kent, and to take divers goods and money from the person of James Salmon, on the king's highway, who should be waiting there for that purpose; with intent that they should cause the said two persons to be apprehended, and convicted for robbing the said Salmon on the king's highway, and so unjustly and wickedly procure to themselves the rewards mentioned in the act of parliament, proclamation, and other parochial rewards, for the apprehending of highwaymen, July 24, 1754.

Tom Blee was the chief witness against the prisoners in this, as he was upon the former trial; and the evidence he gave upon both was to the same purport, with this addition, that Berry told him, that when he, Kelly, and Ellis, robbed Salmon on the Deptford-road, he, Berry, lay behind the four milestone, and saw the robbery committed.

The prisoners having nothing material to say in their defence, the jury found them guilty. The sentence pronounced against them by the Court was, to be imprisoned in Newgate for the term of seven years;

and, in that time, to be each of them set in the pillory twice, in manner following; Macdaniel and Berry in Holborn, near Hatton-garden; Egan, or Gahagan, and Salmon in the middle of Smithfield. Afterwards, Macdaniel and Berry at the end of King-street, Cheapside; and Gahagan and Salmon again in Fleet-street, near Fetter-lane; and, at the end of that time, to find sureties for their good behaviour for three years, and to pay a fine of one mark each.

Pursuant to their sentence, Macdaniel and Berry, on the 5th of March, stood in the pillory in Holborn, near Hatton-garden, and were so severely handled by the populace, that it was with the utmost difficulty that one of the sheriffs and the keeper of Newgate, who stood in a balcony just by, prevented their being utterly destroyed; and so great was the mob, that the peace-officers found it impossible to protect the prisoners from its fury.

March 8th.—Egan, or Gahagan, and Salmon stood in the pillory in the middle of Smithfield rounds; they were instantly assaulted with showers of oyster-shells, stones, &c. and had not stood above half-an-hour before Gahagan was struck dead, (supposed by a marble, or stone shot from a cross-bow, which entered his forehead,) and Salmon so dangerously

wounded in the head, that it was thought impossible he could recover. Thus, though the law could not find a punishment adequate to the horrid nature of their crimes, yet they met with their deserts from the rage of the people.

Four gentlemen of the same profession were, a short time since, capitally convicted for similar offences, viz. Vaughan, Ben Johnson, Brock, and Pelham; and, notwithstanding the public indignation against these miscreants was raised to the highest pitch, they found means to escape the hands of justice, without undergoing the slightest punishment. This appeared more extraordinary, when compared with the fate of the unfortunate Eliza Fenning.

JAMES Mc LEAN ESQR

(The Ladies Hero.)

James Macleane.

JAMES MACLÈANE was a native of Monahan, in the north of Ireland, where his father, who was descended from a very honorable family in the Highlands of Scotland, had settled. Being a younger son, he was bred up a divine of the church of Scotland; and, going over to Ireland, became preacher to a dissenting congregation at Monahan, where he was universally esteemed as a gentleman of probity, piety, and humanity. He married into a reputable family in those parts, and left only two sons, the eldest of which was brought up to the church; and who, at the time of his brother's misfortune, was pastor of a Protestant congregation at the Hague, and living in the highest esteem and respect.

The second son, the subject of this article, had received a very decent education, being designed for some mercantile employment so soon as he should be of age proper to place him in a counting-house; but, unfortunately, his father dying before he was quite eighteen, and what little patrimony he was

entitled to coming under his own management, was soon squandered, without a reflection on his future settlement in life.

Mr. Macleane's property being entirely exhausted, his mother's friends, who were the only relations he had in Ireland, quarrelled with him for his extravagance; and refused him either advice, shelter, or subsistence. He then applied to them for the means of fitting him out for sea, which being refused, he was under the necessity of hiring himself as servant to a Mr. Howard, then on his way to England. With this gentleman he continued some time; but keeping company with the lowest of his countrymen, he contracted habits which displeased his master. They consequently separated; and he returned to Ireland, once more to solicit his friends to do something for him suitable to his birth and expectations; but either his manners or their circumstances not agreeing, they refused to see him, or to afford him any countenance or support. On this disappointment he applied to his brother at the Hague, from whom he frequently received remittances, and advice that might have been of great service to him. But the money soon being dissipated, he was once more under the necessity of seeking employment in a gentleman's service; and

was fortunately received into that of a Colonel F——n, who had some knowledge of his father's family. With this gentleman he lived a few years as butler; but, at last, was detected in some pilfering embezzlements in his trust, and was dismissed without a character. He remained some time out of place, and had thoughts of going over to serve in the Irish brigade in the French service; but understanding, that unless he conformed to the Popish religion his encouragement would be trifling, he conscientiously relinquished the project.

Learning, about this time, that his late master, Colonel F——n, intended shortly to visit England, and presuming on that gentleman's known humanity, he addressed him in as pathetic terms as he could devise, on the necessity of his circumstances, which so wrought on his feelings, that he was once more taken into his service, and entrusted with the care of his baggage to London, with an allowance of one shilling a day for subsistence; though he had only presumed to request his passage to England. Soon after his arrival in town, he had the audacity to request the loan of a sum of money from his master, to purchase a pair of colours, desirous of equipping himself on the expedition of a fortune-

hunter, being prepossessed with the perfections of his person, which he had the vanity to think only required dress to engage some lady to raise him from his present obscurity. Foiled in this application to the colonel for money, he enlisted himself in Lord Albemarle's troop of horse-guards, but again he was at a loss for money, and as ten guineas was all he required, his liberal master generously supplied him.

The colonel, at his importunity, was prevailed upon to lodge the money in the hands of an officer belonging to the troop, with which Macleane seemed satisfied; but, after his pass and other credentials for joining the troop, then in Flanders, were made out, his inclination for a military life vanished; and he enlisted himself into the service of the fair sex, with many of whom, at this time, he became acquainted. Through the liberality of the ladies, he procured a contribution of fifty pounds, under pretence of shipping himself for the West-Indies; but, being once possessed of the cash, and his mind changing as to traveling, he laid it out in fine clothes, and made suit to the daughter of Mr. Macglegno, a dealer in horses, with whom he was so lucky as to succeed, and with her received about 500*l.* as a marriage-portion.

With this sum he set up a grocer and chandler's shop, in Wellbeck-street, near Cavendish-square; and while his wife lived he kept even with the world, and maintained his family in decency, though with much difficulty; for he was more the man of pleasure than of business. Those who knew him at that time, generally spoke of him as a harmless inoffensive man; but were often surprised at his way of life, and apt to suggest strange things of him; though nothing wicked or notorious was laid to his charge while he lived in that neighbourhood.

His wife died about three years after their marriage, leaving him two daughters, of which her mother took the charge, as she afterwards did of the one that survived him. Deprived of his wife, who had managed all the affairs of the shop and business, he was too much addicted to idleness and pleasure to confine himself to the occupation of a grocer; so sold off all his goods, and with the remains of his effects, which he had not augmented by trade, he once more commenced gentleman fortune-hunter.

He was scarce six months embarked in this project, before he had, by folly and extravagance, exhausted all that remained of his late wife's fortune; and was at a loss how to raise any more to supply present neces-

sities, much less to support the figure he made. It was grievous to him to descend again from the fine gentleman to the menial servant, and he soon grew melancholy on the dreadful prospect of being obliged to dispose of his clothes and equipage for mere bread. He was in this gloomy disposition, when he received a visit from a countryman of his, Plunket, an apothecary, who, in a familiar way, asked the cause of his melancholy; on which the other stated his real circumstances, yet he was by no means quite a stranger to them before. To which Plunket replied, "I thought Macleane had spirit and resolution; with some knowledge of the world, a brave man cannot want; he has a right to live, and need not want the conveniences of life; while the dull, plodding, busy knaves carry cash in their pockets we must draw upon them to supply our wants; there need only impudence, and getting the better of a few idle scruples; courage is scarcely necessary, all we have to deal with are such mere poltroons." This discourse was soon understood by Macleane, who, though at first shocked at the bare mention of it, yet the necessity his pride and indolence suggested so strongly, that he yielded to the temptation; and from that time, which might be about eight months after his wife's death,

entered into a particular intimacy with Plunket, agreed to run all risks together, and, present or absent at any enterprise, to share all profits; of which, until the fatal discovery, they kept a fair and regular account.

Though Macleane believed himself possessed of as much courage as any man, yet, on his first attempt (nor could even long practice obdurate,) he felt every symptom of fear and cowardice, aggravated by the stings of conscience, which vice could not harden. However, the success of the first enterprise (on a grazier coming from Smithfield-market, from whom, on Hounslow Heath, they took above 60*l.*) encouraged him to stifle the checks of conscience, and to persevere in a way which, though it appeared to him wicked, yet was found so lucrative. In this transaction he was no more than passive, stood by without speaking a word, or so much as drawing his pistols, but inwardly in greater agony than the man that was robbed; so that if any resistance had been made, he would certainly have taken the first hint of trusting to his heels.

The next robbery they committed was on a coach in the road from St. Albans. By agreement, Macleane was to stop the coachman, and present his pistol on

one side, while Plunket did the same on the other. But though he rode frequently up with intention to give the word, yet his heart failed him; and Plunket, lest they should miss the booty, did it himself; and it was with some faultering Macleane demanded their money after the coach was stopt, and no danger seemed near. However, he grew more resolute, and, to redeem his credit with Plunket, who began to rally him on his pusillanimity, he once by himself robbed a gentleman in Hyde-park, on horseback, of his watch and money; and was the acting man in the robbery of Horatio Walpole, which indeed he owned, and declared the firing of the pistol was accidental.

He reigned long and successfully, and was never but once afraid of discovery; to avoid which, he went over to Holland, till the storm was blown over; pretending a friendly visit to his brother, to whom he gave a feigned account of the manner of his living; and was by him introduced to many very genteel assemblies, and where, it was said, some purses and gold watches were lost; which, since Macleane's confinement, suspicion has fixed the theft on him, though at the time no such thing was thought of.

By such means, however, he supplied all the extravagance of his disposition; yet he never once thought

of his daughter, and seldom visited his mother-in-law, fearing she might make inquiries respecting his way of living, and residence, which he ever carefully concealed from her knowledge; indeed, he was continually shifting his lodgings, to avoid impertinent questions from other persons.

Justice at length overtook him, for having robbed the Salisbury coach, and Lord Eglington in his carriage, on the same morning, June 26, 1750, when taking from the former a cloak-bag, containing wearing-apparel, &c. the property of a passenger, named Higden, he had the imprudence to strip the lace from off the clothes, and to sell them to a salesman, to whom he had given directions where he might call on him to view them, although at the very time they were particularly advertised. This circumstance led to his apprehension; and, upon his first examination, he confessed to have committed the robbery in company with William Plunket, who had absconded; though upon his trial he retracted his confession, but was found guilty on the clearest evidence.

James Macleane, aged 26, was in his person of a middle size, well limbed, of a sandy complexion, broad open countenance, and pitted with the small-pox; but, though he had been called the gentleman

highwayman, and in his dress and equipage affected the fine gentleman, yet to a man acquainted with good-breeding, and can distinguish it from impudence and affectation, there was very little in his address or behaviour that could entitle him to that character.

He was so much in favor with the fair sex, that many presented him with money while confined in the Gate-house; and the notice taken of him by some persons of distinction, gave him hopes of life after conviction, which he cherished until the warrant arrived for his execution. He was hung at Tyburn, 1750.

SAMUEL Mc PHERSON.

Samuel M'Pherson.

SAMUEL M'PHERSON was a man possessing, in the highest degree, prejudices in favor of his national character, custom, and manners; which impelled him, in company with many of his fellow-soldiers and countrymen, to the desperate attempt of reaching their native Highlands from the vicinity of London, through a country at that period strongly armed, and prejudiced against the meditated plans of invasion from a Popish Pretender.

In the reign of King George the First, the rebellion revived the fame of the Highlanders; and it is well recorded how deeply they were engaged on both sides; but if, on the one part, many were found of the Scots' nation to join the standard of rebellion; an equal portion of the same country were found, at least, to assemble round that of the royal cause. When these disturbances subsided, and the whole country was in a state of uninterrupted peace, a sudden resolution was taken to put an end to the celebrity and power of

the Highland clans, by disarming them absolutely; and it was at first proposed to strip them of their clothing, and prevent them going in their ordinary dress. This was in the year 1725, and the motion for bringing this bill into parliament, which was entitled, "For more effectually disarming the Highlanders in that part of Great Britain called Scotland; and for the better securing the peace and quiet of that part of the kingdom," was made by a general-officer, and seconded by Mr. Duncan Forbes. By this law, power was given to the lord-lieutenants, directing the clans to deliver up all their arms and warlike weapons for the use of his majesty; and to be disposed of in such manner as commissioners appointed should think fit.

In case any of the clans thus summoned should fail to comply with this requisition, and after be found bearing arms of any kind, it made them liable to serve as soldiers in any of his majesty's dominions beyond the seas; and the officer who receives such persons, shall then cause the articles of war against mutiny and desertion to be read to them; which done, they should be deemed enlisted soldiers, and be subject to the discipline of war; and, in case of desertion, shall be punished as deserters. There were other severe

penalties: as, for example, if the possessor of any dwelling-house, barn, or out-house, was declared to be the owner of any arms concealed therein, and if convicted, was to suffer as before; and if a woman, to be imprisoned two years, or pay any fine that should be set under an hundred pounds sterling. This bill, after a warm struggle, was passed, and carried into a law.

Soon after the passing of this act, lieutenants were appointed for the different counties; and that every thing might be done that was necessary to bring the Highlands into a perfect state of subjection, these Highland forces were raised at that time, in the shape of independent companies, each consisting of about 300 men; and these put under the command of such noblemen and gentlemen as had signalized their zeal for the royal family and the present establishment. As they were principally intended to put a final period to the insurrections of the clans, and to secure their country from any attempts that might be made by the Highlanders in the Jacobite interest, it was thought requisite to preserve their ancient habit, that they might be the more able to pursue any of these offenders into their fastnesses; which was a scheme

well contrived, since, hitherto, the Highlanders, whenever they were in arms, by their agility and perfect knowledge of the country, had been always too many for the regular troops; as the exploits of the famous Robert Mac Gregor, alias Campbell, commonly called Rob Roy, or Red Robin, from the colour of his hair, which are very well known, had rendered manifest; especially since, after a series of treasons and robberies, it had been found expedient to grant him a pardon, purely but to prevent his doing further mischief.

When the war broke out (1742) it was thought proper to put the Highlanders (who were now as well disciplined as any troops in the service,) into a posture fitting for action, in case their service should become necessary; and they were accordingly regimented, and the Earl of Crawford and Lyndsey, the first earl in Scotland, appointed their colonel. This regulation was far from displeasing to the men; on the contrary, they expressed a very great satisfaction, and upon all occasions shewed themselves as tractable and obedient to orders as men could be.

It is most certain, they always looked upon themselves, from the time they were first raised, as a corps

destined to serve in Scotland, or rather in the Highlands, and no where else. The manner of raising them, in the first place, seemed to countenance this; the jacobite clans were disarmed, to preserve the quiet of the nation, and because the government could never be entirely safe whilst they had arms in their hands. But to strengthen the security, and to put the peace of the Highlands past hazard, the arms taken from those Highlanders were given to these, whence they inferred that they were to be the guards of the Highlands. In the next place, they laid great stress upon their habit,—"To what purpose," said they, "are we clothed like Highlanders, if we are not constantly to be employed in the Highlands; here, indeed, the dress is equally fit and commodious; it has a martial air, and it enables us to do our duty better; but all these reasons will cease elsewhere, and instead of looking like soldiers, we should, in another country, be gaped at as savages." Lastly, their having certain particularities to their country, such as being the tenants of those who first raised them, speaking little or no English, having houses and families in the Highlands, all which were good securities for their fidelity in those parts, which they improved into an argument that it was impossible they should be em-

ployed in any other. The first discovery that was made of the mischief attending this notion, was when the officers had an intimation of the design of marching them into England; for then the men were not at all shy in declaring, that this was a thing they never expected, and with which they should very unwillingly comply. Upon this, good words were given them, and they were prevailed on to begin and continue their march, though not without visible reluctance, which was the reason that it was published in some foreign gazettes, that they had mutinied on the borders, killed many of their officers, carried off their colours, and returned into their own country. In their march through the north part of England, Cumberland, Durham, and Yorkshire, they were so hospitably treated, that they continued in perfect good-humour, and it was believed that their love of country was a little worn off. But when they drew nearer town, the scoffs and jeers of the English peasantry made them more gloomy than ever. But what wrought on the Highlanders most, was a story they had picked up, that they were to be sent to the West-Indies, so opposite in climate to their native plains.

The jealousies and disquiet of the Highlanders

remained, in a great measure, concealed until the review. On this they had fixed great hopes, and built mighty expectations on their being seen and considered by the king, or some of the royal family, on the 14th of May, 1743. They were accordingly reviewed by General Wade, and numerous persons of distinction, who were extremely delighted with the readiness and cheerfulness they expressed in the performances of their military exercises. However, they from that moment meditated the design of retiring back to their own country. Assembling in the night, between the Tuesday and Wednesday following the review on a common near Highgate, they began their march northward, keeping as near as they could between the great roads, and passing from wood to wood in such a manner, that it was not well known which way they moved. The lords-justices issued their order to the commanding-officers of the forces quartered in the countries between them and Scotland; and the secretary-at-war, by direction from their excellencies, published an advertisement for encouraging civil officers to do their duty, in making a vigilant inquiry after them. All this, however, proved to no purpose, for longer time than could well have been expected, since it was five o'clock in the

evening, on Thursday the 19th of May, before any certain account was obtained of them; and then they had got as far as Northampton, and were conceived to be shaping their course for Nottinghamshire. General Blakeney, who commanded at Northampton, immediately dispatched Captain Ball, of General Wade's regiment of horse, a man extremely well acquainted with that part of the country, to make every inquiry and find them out. This the captain took great pains to do, and, with a squadron of horse, pushed as far as Stilton, and so got beyond them; but he scarce reached that place, before he received an express from the general, with advice, that at three o'clock in the afternoon the Highlanders had passed the river Nyne, not far from Wellingborough. Captain Ball, upon this, rightly conjectured that they were marching towards Rutlandshire, and therefore continued his route towards Uppingham, in that county, from whence he dispatched a keeper of the Earl of Gainsborough's, to discover how far they had advanced, as being sensible that he must now be very near them.

The Highlanders had by this time got into Lady-wood, which is between Brigstock and Deanthorpe,

about four miles from Oundle, where they were discovered by Major Creed, one of his majesty's justices of the peace for the county, who immediately sent a dispatch to Captain Ball, and the next morning, being Whitsunday, he went early in the morning to Lady-wood, and had a conference with the Highlanders, whom he persuaded to lay down their arms, and promised to intercede for a pardon. They received him with great submission, only they insisted, that as their lives were at stake, they might be secure of a pardon before they parted with their arms; insisting upon it, that if they were to die, it was better and more honorable for them to fall in the field, than by the stroke of justice. The major promised to write to the Duke of Montagu, master-general of the ordnance, on the subject, and addressed him accordingly. Soon after, Captain Ball arrived, and delivered to the Highlanders the general's conditions of their surrender: viz, "That if they would peaceably lay down their arms, and submit themselves prisoners, the most favourable report should be made of them to the lords-justices." But they protested that they would rather be cut to pieces, than capitulate on other conditions than what they had demanded; namely, their

arms and a free-pardon for all. Captain Ball told them he was yet their friend, and would do all in his power to serve them; but if they continued obstinate an hour longer, (as they were entirely surrounded by the king's forces,) every man should be cut to pieces; and he assured them, that, for his part, he would positively grant quarter to none. He then demanded that two of their company might be ordered to conduct him out of the wood; which being granted, and the captain finding by the discourse he had with these conductors that they (being brothers) were inclinable to surrender, he absolutely promised them a free-pardon, and taking one of them with him, dismissed the other back with his arms, desiring him to try whether fair words would prevail with the rest. He soon after returned with thirteen more. The captain, on marching these a little way from the wood, dispatched one to the main body, to inform them how many of their fellows had submitted; and, in about half-an-hour seventeen more came and surrendered; all of which were immediately marched with their arms (the powder being blown out of each man's pan,) by Captain Ball to the general, when they surrendered them. On returning again to the wood, the whole body (ninety-eight in number, the rest being scat-

tered about the country,) submitted to the general's conditions.

During Captain Ball's first interview with the Highlanders, he found some of them disposed to surrender; and, to encourage them, would have talked with them separately, but four, in a most resolute manner, presented their firelocks at him, and swore, that if he offered to talk or treat with any more of their company separately, they would shoot him instantly.

The march of the Highlanders from Highgate to Oundle has been compared by some of their countrymen to the retreat of the 10,000 Greeks through Persia; by which, for the honor of the ancient kingdom of Scotland, Corporal M'Pherson (who certainly was the most active in the expedition,) was considered a second Xenophon.

The Scotch prisoners, on the road, and even after they entered London, kept up their spirits, and marched very cheerfully, nor did they shew any marks of terror when they were brought into the Tower: but when four, conjectured to be principals, (and who afterwards suffered) were separately put into close custody, their countenances fell, and they became visibly dismayed.

M'Pherson (for he was one that had been so

strictly confined) and his three companions were speedily brought to trial before a court-martial, composed of the officers of the guards, General Folliot as president, and doomed to be shot; which sentence was fulfilled in the Tower, July 18th, 1743.

M. CHRISTOPHER MILLER,

(The German Giant.)

Maximilian Christopher Miller.

MAXIMILIAN CHRISTOPHER MILLER was born at Leipsic, in Saxony, in the year 1674; and, from his infancy, being remarked for amazing size and strength, preferred, when at maturity of growth, to exhibit himself as a show, to learning any trade or calling whereby to support himself. He was publicly shewn at the place of his nativity, and travelled in several countries for the like purpose; and, among others, visited England.

He attracted considerable notice in London, where Boistard drew his portrait from the life, in April, 1733. At this time Miller was fifty-nine years of age, and measured nearly eight feet in height; his hand measured a foot, and his finger was nine inches long.

Hogarth, in his inimitable print of Southwark fair, has introduced the figure of Miller on a *show-cloth*, which evidently proves he was in the habit of exhibiting himself at public places, as well as receiving company in private for money. His face and head were of an

enormous size, and must have struck his beholders with terrific surprise. He wore a sort of Hungarian jacket, a fancy-wrought cap, with an immense plume of feathers; and, upon the introduction of visitors, he assumed an air of the utmost importance, with a gilt sceptre in his right-hand, and his left placed on the handle of a tremendous falchion, richly mounted, parading the apartment with great state and dignity. Miller died in London, in the year 1734, aged sixty years. It may be observed, very few persons that exceed the ordinary dimensions of mankind, rarely survive to a great age. Bamfield, the hatter, of Shire-lane, Temple-bar, who measured seven feet four inches in height, died when but thirty-six; and the celebrated O'Brien long before he had attained that period of his life. Dwarfs, on the contrary, have been known to live to very advanced ages. Jeffery Hudson, the dwarf, died in his sixty-third year, in the Gate-house, Westminster, where he was imprisoned on suspicion of being privy to the Popish plot; and Boruwlaski, the Polish dwarf, living at the present time, must have exceeded the age of seventy.

ANN MILLS,

(Served on Board the Maidstone Frigate)

Anne Mills.

Among the female adventurers and candidates for military or naval glory, none in their time stood more forward than Anne Mills. By what chance, or in what capacity she first commenced her career on shipboard, is not known; but, about the year 1740, she was serving as a common sailor on-board the Maidstone frigate; and, in an action between that ship and a French enemy, she so greatly distinguished herself, by personal prowess, as to be particularly noticed by the whole crew. It is, by the circumstance of her portrait being taken with a Frenchman's head in her hand, that we are naturally led to imagine the service she performed must have been of a most desperate nature, whether in the act of boarding, or of being boarded by the enemy; and, probably, after the conquest cut off the head of her opponent, as a trophy of victory.

In all likelihood, some love affair induced this woman to assume the male character, in order to follow the fortune of a favourite lover, who had gone

to sea. Mary Read and Anne Bonny, two notorious female virago pirates; Christian Davis, commonly called *Mother Ross;* with Hannah Snell, which latter two served in a military capacity, all pleaded the *tender passion* as an apology for assuming masculine pursuits and habits.

WILLIAM PAGE,

(Executed April 1758.)

William Page.

William Page, otherwise Gage, otherwise Williams, otherwise as many other names as circumstances led him to adopt, was born at Hampton, in Middlesex, of honest and industrious parents. His father was a bargeman to a coal-merchant in that town, and was drowned during the great frost, 1740, somewhere above Putney-bridge. After the death of his father, his mother, who was a very industrious woman, took to distilling simple waters, in which she was greatly encouraged by the gentry and others, both in town and country; who seeing her care and diligence, and willingness to keep herself from becoming a burthen to the parish, were all ready to serve and assist her. William was the only child of his parents, and received a tolerable education at a charity-school in Hampton; and from thence was engaged to draw beer at the Bell alehouse, in the same town. He next went upon trial to Mr. Woodfall, a printer, who then lived in Little Britain; but that business being too great a confinement for his roving disposition, he

hired himself as footboy to Mr. Dalrymple, at the Scots Holland Warehouse, in London. Neither did he continue long here, but went as footman into the service of Mr. Hodges, in Lincoln's-inn-fields, where his behaviour not being agreeable to his master, he was soon discharged.

Some time after he became footman to Mr. Macartney, in Argyle-buildings; but soon disliking his place, he hired himself as a servant in livery to the Earl of Glencairn, and went with his lordship into Scotland. Neither the country nor the people proving agreeable to his disposition, he left his lordship's service, went to Edinburgh, bought a horse, came to London, and engaged himself as valet to Captain Jasper, whom he afterwards robbed on Hounslow-heath. He lived in several other places in quality of a footman, and as he was of that proud and haughty spirit that could not patiently submit to the orders of his superiors, nor behave himself with common decency to his equals and fellow-servants, his continuance in all of them was of short duration. Thus he constantly lost his friends and patrons as soon as he had got them, and was daily adding to the number of his enemies.

Being by such means as these extremely reduced

in his circumstances, without money, without friends, and without character, he could think of no better method of supplying his wants, and freeing himself from a servile dependancy, than by turning collector on the highway. This he imagined would not only take off that badge of slavery, a livery, which he had always worn with regret, but set him on a level with gentlemen, a figure he was ever ambitious of making, though hitherto it had been out of his power. Thus resolved, his first care was to provide himself with a brace of pistols. It was not long before he heard of a gentleman's servant who had a pair to dispose of. Accordingly he went to him, pretending a friend of his had desired him to look out for a set, and to purchase them if worth his money. The servant produced the pistols, and Page seemed to like them, and desired he might have them to shew the gentleman for his approbation. Being now furnished with proper arms, he immediately hires a horse, turns out upon the Highgate-road, and robs the Highgate coach, taking from the passengers about 4*l.* He then went and paid for the pistols, and from that time commenced highwayman, and daily committed robberies—some near the metropolis, and others at a distance in the country; the most material of which was that on his former master,

Captain Jasper, on Hounslow-heath. As the captain with a lady was passing over the Heath in a chaise, Page came up to the postillion, and bid him stop, and then ordered the captain to deliver:—the captain said, "*That may be, Sir, but not yet;*" and pulling out a pistol, fired at him, but unfortunately wounded the postillion very severely in the back: which Page observing, said, "*Consider, Sir, what a rash action you have been guilty of; you have killed this poor fellow, which I would not have done for the world. And now, Sir, as I before required you to deliver, so now I repeat my orders, and if you refuse any longer to comply, I will actually fire upon you.*" Upon which the captain snapt his second pistol at him, but it did not go off. Page then swore he would shoot the lady, imagining that would terrify him more than the fear of his own life. The captain, however, to screen the lady from the danger, though at the hazard of his own person, very gallantly placed himself in her lap. Then Page swore he would shoot him, if he did not instantly deliver his money, and would be as good as his word. The captain on this leaped out of the chaise, and Page fired, but in such a manner as to miss, (for he had no design to hurt him, unless he should be compelled to do so in his

own defence.) Upon which the captain snapped his pistol the second time, but without fire. Page then said, "*You must now surrender, or I will absolutely shoot you.*" The captain seeing himself in his power, and without means to help himself, thought proper to give him his gold watch, and ten or eleven guineas in money. Page then demanded his sword. The captain answered, "*You may see by my cockade I am an officer, and I would sooner part with my life than with my sword.*" Page replied, "*I think myself the bravest fellow that ever crossed these plains, but thou art an obstinate fellow, and so go about your business.*"— Some time after he robbed the Hon. Taylor White, the Welch judge, as he was going upon his circuit into Wales, and took from him his gold watch and some money. Many other robberies he committed about the same time, and was frequently so closely pursued, that it was with the utmost difficulty he made his escape.

Any one would imagine a man engaged in his course of life, without home or habitation, had but little occasion for a wife; or, that any woman of good character would unite herself with a person of at best a doubtful character. Yet he paid his addresses to a young woman of Hampton Town, of a modest and

virtuous life, and at length prevailed upon her to accept him for a husband, by whom he had several children, being herself of an honest and industrious disposition. On becoming acquainted with his way of life, and of the manner he supported himself, so far from instigating him to pursue it, she often warned him of the danger, and begged him to desist from those pernicious courses, which in the end would prove his ruin. But all her prayers and entreaties were ineffectual, and he persisted to the last.

Page, with a companion (for he had now commenced an acquaintance) being on the north road, beyond Barnet, for the purpose of plunder, happened to meet with Lord Downe, in a post-chaise. He went up to the chaise, with the usual salute of *deliver*. Upon which his lordship drew his pistol, and discharged it with so true an aim, that he shot him in the body. The ball lodged in his back, and though he scarce felt it at first, yet the vast profusion of blood that issued from the wound soon made him sensible of his danger. His companion, who had got an unruly horse, could not immediately come to his assistance. Page, however, notwithstanding his first repulse, renewed his attack, and advanced a second time: but perceiving his lordship had another pistol

levelled directly at him, thought proper to retire, and finding himself becoming weak from the excessive loss of blood, doubled his handkerchief and applied it to the wound; then buttoning himself up close, made the best of his way for London. On his arrival he sent for a surgeon, who, upon searching the wound, found it so dangerous that he declared he would not undertake it without the assistance of another of the same profession. One was accordingly sent for, who, at first sight, knew Page perfectly well, though the other did not. He asked him how he came by the wound? Page answered, he received it in a duel he had just fought. The surgeon replied, he would endeavour to extract the ball; but desired never to see his face again, for he believed he had fought that duel near Barnet.

Page was obliged, through this accident, to lie by for some time; and, on his recovery, was so far from being intimidated by his late narrow escape, that he seemed to have gathered fresh spirit for new exploits. Accordingly he and his companion set out upon new adventures, and riding over Shooter's-hill, they met two post-chaises; in one of which was a supercargo belonging to the East India Company, and in the other two gentlemen, whom they disarmed, after a

desperate engagement, in which pistols were discharged by both parties, but without execution. Fastening their hands together they marched them with the postillions into a wood, and ordered them to stay there an hour on peril of their lives. Page and his companion, after robbing the chaises of two trunks, which they concealed in a wood not far distant, returned directly to London; and on the next morning went down in two chaises and brought away their prize to town. On opening the trunks they found a large quantity of money, and packets of letters and papers of great consequence to the East India Company. This robbery was immediately advertised, and a reward of forty guineas offered to any person who would make a discovery, "*and no questions asked;*" (which was the manner of advertising felonies at that time;) but, according to an act since made, such a clause in an advertisement would incur a penalty of 50*l.* Fearing a discovery by keeping the papers, they made them into a parcel, and sent it by a ticket-porter to the clerks in the India-house, but without demanding the reward.

Page singly robbed a colonel of the army, near Dunstable, from whom he took four or five pounds, and a portmanteau from the back of the chaise; which

on opening he found to contain three gold watches, and nearly 100*l.* in money, besides rich clothes and linen. These robberies, from their notoriety, becoming the constant topic of conversation, Page wisely withdrew himself to the West Indies, designing, if possible, to engage as clerk to some merchant; but, after a stay of about seven months, at Barbadoes and Antigua, he embarked on-board the Tavistock man-of-war, and returned to England. He soon took to his old practice on the highway, and his first exploit was robbing a Mr. Cusse, in Hertfordshire. Mr. Cusse being in a post-chaise on the road, Page came up with him, and bid him deliver; when the former, having no means of defence, pulled out his purse, and held it up in his hand in order to give it him; but Page's horse, which he had just hired in Purple-lane, (for he was not yet able to purchase one) not being used to that kind of business, startled, and could not be brought near enough for Page to receive the purse. Upon which he ordered the postillion to bring it to him; which was done accordingly, and he rode off. Some time after, leading his horse carelessly down Highgate-hill, he was followed by three men on horseback; who, suspecting he was the highwayman that had robbed Mr. Cusse, consulted together how to take

him. One of them came up, and accosted him thus: "*Sir, I have often walked my horse up a hill, but never down; but since you do, I will also, and bear you company.*" They had not, however, proceeded far, when the gentleman suddenly laid hold of his arms, and pinioned them so fast behind him, that the other two came up and secured him beyond a possibility of escape. They took out of his pockets four loaded pistols, several balls, and a powder-horn, a crape out of his hat, and a map of all the cross and bye-roads for twenty miles round London, which he had himself drawn, from his own observations, and for his own use. He was first carried before a justice of peace at Highgate, but for further examination brought before Henry Fielding, Esq. who committed him to Bridewell. A little before the sessions came on at the Old Bailey, he was conveyed to Newgate; and from thence by Habeas Corpus to Hertford, where, at the ensuing assizes, he was tried for the said robbery. The postillion swore positively to him; but Page brought witnesses who swore he was at another place, ten miles off, at the same time. Upon which the jury acquitted him. Thus Page got rid of this troublesome affair by help of some of his trusty intimates; but was so reduced that he had not a penny in his

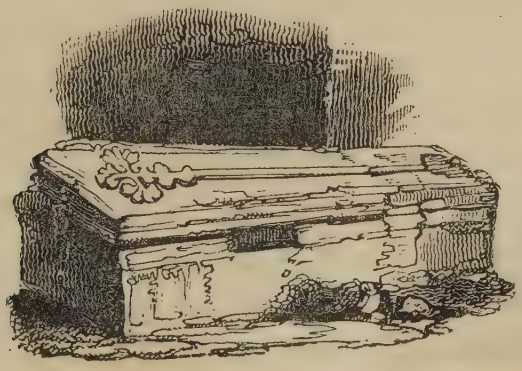
pocket, a shoe to his foot, and scarce any thing but rags to cover him, for above a twelvemonth afterwards; and to support himself used to frequent billiard-tables, being a dexterous player at that game, where now and then he picked up a little money, just enough to keep him alive. After he had continued in this forlorn condition for about a twelvemonth, he found another companion, one who frequented the billiard-tables, and in equal desperate circumstances with himself; these two, comparing notes together, came to the resolution of making a campaign on the highway, and in company committed numerous robberies, undetected for a length of time. But Page had now ran his full career; for, in February, 1757, he went out alone, and robbed Captain Farrington, near Blackheath, of twenty-seven guineas and a gold watch, which being a very remarkable one, he afterwards got the maker's name and number taken out, in order to disguise it. He was instantly pursued by the captain's servants, and likewise by the servants of the neighbouring gentlemen, who followed him so close, that in all probability he would have been taken, had not one of the servants' horses broke his leg in the eagerness of pursuit. Page perceiving his danger, made all the speed possible to Richmond Ferry,

which having crossed, he reached Twickenham, and remained in safety. Some time after, he, in company with his companion, took the Tunbridge-road, in hopes of meeting with a booty; they were upon the prowl several days, and at last agreed to go through the town of Seven Oaks, Page first, and his companion after him; lest they being seen together might raise a suspicion. His companion had past the town a little way, when he was surprised to see five men, all armed with pistols, and one with a blunderbuss, pass him full speed in pursuit of Page, who, however, escaped them through the fleetness of his horse. In their return they secured the confederate, on suspicion of being concerned with the runaway, who, being conveyed before a justice, on promise of becoming an evidence, gave information where Page might be met with, and discovered all the numerous robberies in which he had been concerned as an accomplice. Page was apprehended at the Golden Lion, Grosvenor-square-gate, where he usually put up his horse.

Page was accustomed to frequent places of public resort in town; his hair, which was long and flowing when he went out upon an expedition, he tucked up under a wig, and could let it fall at any time

necessary to alter his appearance. He was tried at the Old Bailey, and at Hertford, for various offences, but for want of evidence, (excepting that of his accomplice,) was acquitted at both places; when, being conveyed to Rochester, he was arraigned for the robbery on Captain Farrington, (since dead,) and, on the clearest evidence, the identity of his dress, the pawning of the watch, and other particulars being proved, he was found guilty, and suffered on Pennenden-heath, near Maidstone, Kent, April 6th, 1758, in his thirty-third year.

It would form a volume to record the numerous robberies this man committed in the space of ten years, during which time he had infested all the public and private roads surrounding the metropolis.



William Parsons.

WILLIAM PARSONS, the son of a respectable baronet, was born in London, in the year 1717, and received the rudiments of his education at Pepper-Harrow, near Godalmin, in the county of Surry, under the care of the Reverend Mr. Gruchy, a gentleman eminent for his piety and learning, with whom he continued three or four years, and afterwards went to Eton-college to complete his exercises, and fit himself for the university. He was at Eton nine years; but, owing to a habit of idleness, he made an indifferent proficiency in learning.

During his stay at Eton, he frequently used to be at the shop of Mr. Pote, a bookseller, where he initiated himself in the practice of privately stealing. Mr. Pote, having lost several volumes of Pope's Homer, and not knowing whom to fix upon, came to a resolution to watch the motions of every person that entered his shop; and, in a short time, he had an opportunity of detecting young Parsons putting a book into his pocket. On charging him with steal-

WILLIAM PARSONS, ESQR

ing the others, he confessed, and was publicly disciplined in the school.

Soon after he came from Eton, when his father, to prevent his getting into bad company, got him appointed midshipman on-board his majesty's sloop Drake, Captain Fox, then ordered to sail from Spithead to Jamaica, and to be stationed there three years. The ship not proceeding immediately on her voyage, he obtained liberty to go ashore on a party of pleasure; and nothing but an amour of his, coming to the ears of his uncle, would have stopt him from hastily marrying the daughter of a doctor, in hopes of gaining some little money she was possessed of. But fortunately for the intended bride, his uncle hastened to send him on-board the sloop, which set sail, and reached its destined port. He had not been long at Jamaica, before he determined to leave the Drake, and ship himself for England, to renew his former suit with the doctor's daughter, at Bishop's Waltham, in Hampshire, about ten miles from Portsmouth. To effect this scheme he got on-board his majesty's ship Sheerness, in quality of midshipman, and soon came to England. As soon as he arrived he set off for Waltham, and was renewing his courtship, when he was a second time prevented by his

uncle from succeeding in his suit, who shipped him on-board the Romney, bound to Newfoundland.

During his absence in this ship, some artful persons had incensed the Duchess of Northumberland so greatly against him, that she altered her will, which before had been quite in his favor, and bequeathed his intended legacy, which was considerable, to his sister. His friends were so much displeased with his former behaviour at Waltham, that they would not admit him into any of their houses, nor even see him, so that he was destitute of almost every necessary of life. His father at length relenting, obtained him a situation in the service of the Royal African Company of England, at James'-fort, on the River Gambia; but here quarrelling with the governor, he once more returned to England, and came safe to London; where he had not been long, before the news of his arrival reached his uncle, who sent him a very kind invitation, which he readily accepted; and, waiting on him at his house at Epsom, was favorably received. Here he staid some time, and was treated with all the kindness and affection imaginable; yet he soon grew restless, and wanted to enter into all the pleasures of what he styled the polite world. During his abode with his uncle, he

imprudently debauched one of the servant-maids, and she becoming pregnant, accused him as the father. This so much incensed the old gentleman, that he immediately turned him out of doors, friendless and pennyless, and left him to seek shelter where he could. Destitute entirely, he bent his course towards London, and was reduced to such penury, as to have no more than three half-pence for four days; and frequently used to quench his thirst at the pumps in the streets. In this interval he lay four nights in a hay-loft, belonging to the Master of the Rolls' stables, in Chancery-lane; his weak and miserable condition influenced the coachman to commiserate his case, and shelter him from the inclemency of the weather.

From this wretched situation he was relieved by a gentlewoman, who had lived with the Duchess of Northumberland, and had known Parsons in his childhood. She procured him a lodging in Cambridge-street, and supplied him with a little money for his daily expenses. A short time after, hearing his father was in town, in Conduit-street, he determined to apply to him, and going to his house, the servant not knowing him he was immediately introduced. His father was induced to pardon him, on confessing his follies; but his mother-in-law, in a great passion,

left the room. His father now advised him to seek his bread by enlisting himself, as a private man, in his majesty's regiment of life-guards: this counsel he thought very salutary, but was greatly astonished, when, upon volunteering his service, he was informed the thing was only to be accomplished by purchase, which would cost him seventy guineas. In this dilemma he thought of consulting once more with his father, but had the mortification to learn he had quitted town, after leaving five shillings for his use. Under all these difficulties, he recollected that his father's sister was lately dead, and had left his brother a handsome legacy, which he learnt by a letter from a friend. He immediately turned this letter to account, by raising money on security of the legacy, making it out as belonging to himself. Thus frequently mortgaging his pretended bequest, he was enabled to appear in a most genteel manner. He dressed himself very gaily, was a constant visitor of every public place, such as balls, plays, operas, &c. and the only thing he wanted was a pretty lady, with a handsome fortune in her own hands, and to ingratiate himself so far into her favor as to be deputed guardian of both person and estate. Luckily for him a prize soon fell to his lot; for, by mere accident, falling into company

with a young lady, whose father was just dead, and had bequeathed her a handsome estate, at her own disposal, he thought it a favorable occasion of introducing himself to her acquaintance, which he cultivated with such success, that, after four months' courtship, she consented to be his; and they were married, February 10, 1740, and Parsons placed in full possession of all his desires.

The news of this union soon reached the ears of his uncle, and his relations in general, who were so pleased at this action, that they made what interest they could in his favor at court; and, a few days after his marriage, a commission from his majesty, appointing him an ensign in the Honorable Colonel Cholmondeley's regiment of foot, was presented him. He directly hired, and genteely fitted up, a house in Poland-street, where he lived two years, equally loving and beloved by his friends and acquaintance, and esteemed by all who knew him. During this period he had two children, one of which died in its infancy.

After living two years in Poland-street, he removed into Panton-square, and the greatest harmony subsisted between him and his wife; nor was he guilty of any misconduct, except his profuseness in keep-

ing a chaise and pair, three saddle-horses, and servants equivalent, which exceeded the bounds of his income. But the greatest of all possible misfortunes which could happen him, was falling into company accidentally with one J—— N——, generally known by the name of Dr. N——, a man of very good address, and a perfect master of cunning, who, by sly insinuations, soon made him believe him his sincere friend, and that his open expressions and professions of friendship were the real sentiments of his soul.

This man had no visible way of subsisting, but by frequenting gaming-houses, tennis-courts, &c. with a parcel of sharpers, his intimate acquaintance, to cajole and cheat the inexpert and heedless of their health, fortune, and credit. In an evil hour N—— gained so far upon Parsons, as to persuade him to play, which, with a great deal of argument, he effected. It may naturally be supposed he had no run of very good luck; let him play ever so often, he was sure to lose very considerably, which he found afterwards was shared by his friend and the winner, who was sure to be some gambler of N——'s acquaintance, planted purposely to decoy the unwary Parsons.

About this time, Mr. Parsons received his com-

mission as a lieutenant; and the regiment being ordered into Flanders, he was obliged to go with it. He still remained quite a stranger to the villany of N——, and liking him as a facetious, agreeable companion, took him abroad with a servant to attend him; little suspecting this vulture was sucking out his heart's-blood, and undermining his content and happiness here and hereafter. His extravagancy, and the itch he now had for gaming, occasioned him frequently to borrow large sums of money by annuities, mortgages, or otherwise; and, being pressed hard for debts he had contracted in the regiment whilst abroad, which he was entirely unable to pay, he obtained leave to sell his commission, that his debts might be discharged, and his creditors satisfied.

N—— stuck still fast to him, whilst he had any thing to prey upon, and came back with him from Flanders to England. On his arrival in town, he found his creditors so clamorous as not to permit him a quiet residence, at least with his wife, with whom, till now, he had always lived in an amicable and harmonious manner; therefore, he was obliged to leave her, and seek for private lodgings. Finding an apartment to his satisfaction in Gough-square,

Fleet-street, he hired it in the name of Captain Brown, and passed as a single gentleman. None suspecting him, he was treated with the greatest complaisance, and he presumed to pay his addresses to the gentleman's daughter, in a supposed honorable manner, but whom he debauched, and had by her two children, and she soon afterwards was deserted by him, and sent to Newgate for debt. From this time Mr. Parsons commenced the profession of a downright swindler, and that of the worst description, ever practising frauds on his best friends, and those who wished to serve him.

War about this time being declared with France, and he quite out of employ, he shipped himself, in hopes of accumulating some wealth, and of recruiting his shattered circumstances, in June, 1745, on-board the Dursley, galley-privateer, Captain Organ Furnell, as captain of marines. After having been some time at sea, they fell in with a French privateer, which they took, and carried into Cork, in Ireland, when he was taken ill, occasioned by a sickness amongst the prisoners, and, in consequence, sent ashore; the privateer sailing from Cork soon after, left him behind. In a short time he had spent all his ready-money, and, to replenish his stock, drew three bills upon some eminent merchants in London, for which

he received sixty pounds; but a little before he thought they could have any advice concerning them, took the opportunity of coming to England, in the Louis Erasmus, French prize, taken by some of the royal family privateers, and in a few days arrived safe at Plymouth.

Arriving in London, and finding his cash run low, he went to a tavern in the Strand, and asked the landlord, whom he was well acquainted with, if he could send him a parson, as he was about to marry a young lady. A clergyman was soon found, but a ring being requisite, Mr. Parsons ordered the waiter to step to a jeweller's, and bid him bring some plain rings, when the clergyman told him he had a friend who lived at hand, and, if he pleased, would send for him. Mr. Parsons politely thanked him, saying, he thought a trifling present to his wife would not be amiss, and begged a few diamond-rings might be brought likewise. The clergyman sent, and the rings were produced, when, after choosing a plain one, and also a diamond one of considerable value, Mr. Parsons pulled out a draught, desiring the jeweller to give him change; but, recollecting himself, he told the clergyman he would settle with him for the whole when the ceremony was over, with which

the jeweller was quite satisfied, and went away. The lady shortly after quitted the room on some pretence, when, staying longer than was expected, Mr. Parsons pretended to be uneasy, and went in search of her, leaving his hat in the room, to avoid suspicion, but decamped after his accomplice to a rendezvous appointed where they should meet, allowing the clergyman to settle with the jeweller at his leisure. During the rebellion, in 1745, Mr. Parsons, who was then a lieutenant in the Honorable Colonel Cholmondeley's regiment of foot, having involved himself by his extravagances, in great streights, applied himself to a half-pay officer, proposing to go down in the country and join the rebels. His friend advised him by no means to embark in such a desperate scheme, and generously lent him forty guineas, as a present supply; he afterwards borrowed a horse of the same gentleman, under pretence of going a journey, but immediately rode the animal to Smithfield and sold it. Having committed this base action, and ashamed to meet or see Mr. St. John, the injured gentleman, Mr. Parsons gave a false accusation against him, accusing him of a design of joining the rebels; upon which charge he was taken into custody, and retained a prisoner for many months, nor did he get his liberty at last with-

out the loss of his half-pay, which was taken from him on this occasion.

Mr. Parsons now entirely subsisted by fraud and deception; but finding his pranks had aroused some of his creditors sharply to pursue him, he framed a scheme to be seized as a disaffected person, and was accordingly taken into custody, and detained in the hands of a messenger about eighteen months, where he lived very free and peaceable, unembarrassed with the clamours of dunning creditors, at the expense of government. During his confinement here, some persons promised to get him a genteel place as a reward for his information against Captain St. John; but, finding their promises quite windy, upon his releasement, to shun his creditors, he was obliged to go to Holland, where he resided as long as his money lasted, and then came to England in search of new adventures.

A masquerade happening at Ranelagh, he borrowed money for admission, and drew a note, on the strength of which he played for small sums; but continuing he lost to the full amount, when, on the persons offering the note for payment where directed, the fraud was detected, and a day or two after Mr. Parsons was apprehended and committed to Wood-street compter,

from whence he was removed, by Habeas Corpus, after seven months confinement, to Maidstone, to take his trial for a fraud on a Mr. Fuller. He was found guilty, received sentence of transportation, and shortly after was shipped on-board the Thames, Captain Dobbins, bound to Maryland, where, on the 30th of November, 1749, he was landed at Annapolis. After his arrival he continued as a common slave about seven weeks, when Lord F——, having heard some account of him, feeling for the hardships he suffered, kindly received him into his house, treated him with great regard and humanity, and allowed him a horse to ride. Parsons being naturally ungrateful, went off with the horse, and rode away into the country; and, about a fortnight before he left Virginia, robbed a gentleman on horseback of five pistoles, one moidore, and ten dollars. This being but a small sum, about eleven days after he met a gentleman and lady in a chaise, with a negro-servant, from whom he took about eleven guineas sterling, and three dollars, when thinking the country would be too hot for him, he made for Powtomack river, where he found a ship just ready to depart. Selling his horse he embarked, and, after a passage of three weeks and four days, arrived safe at Whitehaven, in the north of England.

Forging a letter that his father was dead, and that he had arrived in England to take possession of a large estate, he prevailed on a merchant at Whitehaven to let him have seventy pounds, giving him a draught for the same on a banker in London. Having provided himself with necessaries here, he set out for town, where, on his arrival, he frequented his old haunts, such as gaming-tables, brothels, &c. and, as this diminished his cash, he determined to find some method of relief. Sick of his bare-spun forgeries and cheats, he had no means left for subsistence but the road; and, in August, 1748, he set out and robbed two gentlemen in a post-chaise, upon Hounslow-heath, of five guineas, eight shillings, and a watch, which he pledged the next morning, for a guinea and a half, at a pawnbroker's in Piccadilly.

He carried on this trade with great success for a short time; but, happening to overtake Mr. Fuller, his former prosecutor, on Turnham-green, in company with a Mr. Best, who were going a journey together, he was immediately known to them, though they took but little notice of him at first. Coming pretty near them, and fearing some evil consequences, they desired he would keep off. However, Parsons still kept close to them, sometimes before and some-

times behind, till they came very near Hounslow, when a person on horseback joined them, and they all went into the town together. Mr. Best and Mr. Fuller, on reaching the town, got out of the chaise, insisting on Parsons surrendering himself, and submitting to their mercy, or they would raise the town upon him. Upon this, Parsons alighted from his horse, and, in a confused manner, supplicated their mercy, and begged to speak with them in private. They immediately went into a private-room, and as he thought resistance useless, freely delivered his pistols, charged and primed, and trusted to the lenity of the two gentlemen. But, on Mr. Day (the master of the Rose and Crown at Hounslow) observing that Parsons answered the description of a highwayman, who at that time infested the road, the gentlemen thought proper not to let him go, in justice to the public. Whereupon a constable was sent for, who, upon searching his pockets, found a horn of gunpowder and some balls.

Upon being carried before a justice of the peace, he pleaded very much for mercy, and urged the respectability of his family, which he hoped would operate in his favor; nevertheless, upon examination, he was committed to Newgate. Tottering on the verge

between time and eternity, his behaviour accorded not with his awful situation; and a preparation for a future state still remained unheeded and unthought of. He had always strong hopes within himself of a reprieve, and vainly flattered himself with such expectations, and even deceived himself to the very last minute. However, he paid the debt due to nature, and to justice, the 11th of February, 1750, pursuant to the sentence pronounced against him at Justice-hall, in the Old Bailey.

He wrote several letters to his father, wife, and friends, expressing bitter remorse and penitence for his past folly and conduct; but evidently with a view to interest themselves in the endeavour to procure him a pardon. It appears his father was successful enough to procure him a respite for some time; but his atrocious character was such, that he was left to his fate, notwithstanding his father's and wife's petition to the king in his favor, which was couched in the following manner:—

"That your petitioners humbly implore your majesty's most gracious pardon for the said William Parsons, and faithfully promise, that, if your majesty be pleased to grant the same, they will take care for

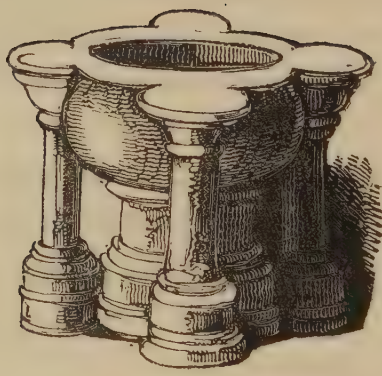
the time to come, that it shall not be in his power to abuse your majesty's clemency, or injure any of your majesty's subjects.

" And your petitioners (as in duty bound)

" Shall ever pray, &c.

" WILLIAM PARSONS,

" MARY TREGONWELL PARSONS."



MARGARET POTTER,

(Born at Glasgow 1596.)

Margaret Patten.

[*The portrait accompanying this Memoir, through an error of the engraver, bears the name of Potter.*]

MARGARET PATTEN was a native of Glasgow, where she was born in the year 1596, towards the end of the reign of Queen Elizabeth. Her maiden-name was Gibson, though at what period she exchanged it for Patten, has not reached us; but, removing from Scotland, probably with her husband, she settled in Westminster, and afterwards found an asylum in St. Margaret's Parish-workhouse, where she died in the year 1739, at the very advanced age of one hundred and forty-three years.

She is said to have retained her mental faculties to the last, and was extremely communicative to the numerous persons that were led by curiosity to visit and converse with her. These visitations were much encouraged by the master of the workhouse, who derived little less emolument from the practice, than if he had taken a booth at Bartholomew, or any other fair,

to have shown the old lady as a curiosity. She was visited by all classes of people, and among others the portrait-painters did not forget to attend, and to two of them we are indebted for the preservation of her likeness, viz. when at the age of one hundred and forty-one, taken by J. Cooper, in the year 1737, representing her in a white hood, with a stick in her hand; and another done from the life, in the same year, by Jacob Smith, a profile etching, representing her as habited in a riding-hood.

Generally when persons are led by curiosity to visit any object, or to enquire into circumstances of an extraordinary nature, they remain satisfied with their own peculiar gratification; and rarely think it worth the trouble of taking memorandums of what, at the moment, engages their notice. To this circumstance may be attributed the cause of our possessing such slender materials to satisfy the curiosity and research of subsequent inquiry; if the age and date of the year be preserved, little more is thought necessary to record the memory of very interesting characters. What entertaining and instructive anecdotes could Margaret Patten have communicated concerning the persons and times of Queen Elizabeth, James I., the two Charles's, Oliver Cromwell, James II.,

William and Mary, Anne, and the first George, which have since her time been lost and buried in oblivion!

Margaret Patten was rather lively and pleasant in her conversation, than reserved or morose in her manner, and would return as well as receive a joke. A gentleman once conversing with her, as to her health, and on other subjects, requested she would inform him at what period of life a woman's amorous propensities ceased? She very readily, and cheerfully, answered with a smile, that to be satisfied in that particular he must consult an older woman than herself.

She was buried in the Broadway-chapel burying-ground, Westminster, June 29th, 1739. Affixed to the brick-wall is a stone, bearing an inscription to record her memory and great age.

John Pixley.

JOHN PIXLEY was a native of Ipswich, in Suffolk, where becoming connected with a desperate gang of smugglers, that infested the neighbouring sea-coast, he so much distinguished himself by the hazardous exploits he accomplished in "running," as the smugglers term it, contraband goods, that he became the adviser of all their future operations. This illicit trade he continued until detected in the act of landing a considerable quantity of brandy, hollands, &c. a bill of indictment was preferred against him; on which he was found guilty, and a fine imposed on him to a considerable amount, besides losing the whole of the articles seized. Having a great many friends among his smuggling companions, he contrived, with their assistance, and by petitioning the Custom-house Board, to obtain his liberation from prison, on paying a mitigated sum; and, soon after, made interest to become an officer of the customs.

His knowledge of the methods and practices of smuggling, rendered him an acquisition to the cus-

JOHN PIXLEY.

toms; and his zeal and activity made him the terror of his former companions, seizing indiscriminately on all that offended. Smuggling at this period was carried to the greatest possible extent; and, so daring were many of the gangs, that the officers employed by government were always in hazard of their lives. The conviction of Pixley took place in 1740; and, in 1749, Benjamin Tapner, John Cobby, John Hammond, William Jackson, William Carter, Richard Mills the elder, and Richard Mills the younger, were tried and convicted for the murder of William Gulley, breaking open the Custom-house at Poole, in Dorsetshire, and whipping Richard Hawkins to death; the six former were executed at Chichester, January 18, 1749, the younger Mills dying in prison the day before. The portrait of Pixley was engraved and published in 1749, with the following inscription:—

> For your King and Country prove true,
> You will be loved and have your due.

Henry Rogers.

Of all the brutal, stupid, and ignorant malefactors that ever existed, Henry Rogers may be accounted the chief; he was by profession a pewterer, residing at a village called Skewis, in Cornwall, and was a man of considerable property, independent of his trade. But a disagreement arising between him and some claimants to property that each considered himself entitled to, they not arranging with themselves, sought the judgment of the law, by a suit in Chancery; which, after being carried on to the most expensive and vexatious extent, was decided in favor of Rogers' opponents.

A writ was issued to take Rogers into custody for a contempt of Court, by not surrendering certain property he held, in opposition to its orders. Having heard that every man's house was his castle, and which none dare forcibly enter, he strongly fortified it, making loop-holes for his muskets, and planted them about in a way resembling a place besieged.

HENRY ROGERS,

(Pewterer of Cornwall.)

Here he imagined himself secure; resisted every remonstrance made by his friends and well-wishers; and, ignorant of the strong power of the law, proceeded to the outrage of shooting two men of the *posse comitatus*, who attended the under-sheriff. Shortly after, he shot one Hitchens as he was passing the high-road on his private business; and, firing through the window, killed one Toby, nor did he suffer his body to be taken away to be buried for some days. At length the neighbouring justices of the peace assisted the constables, and procured the aid of some soldiers, one of whom he killed, and afterwards made his escape; but at Salisbury, on his way towards London, he was apprehended and brought down to Cornwall, where, at the assizes, in August, 1735, five bills of indictment were found against him by the grand jury, for the murders aforesaid. To save the Court time, he was tried only on three of them, and found guilty of every one, before Lord Chief-justice Hardwick. As he lay in gaol after his condemnation, the under-sheriff coming in, he attempted to seize his sword, with a resolution to kill him; swearing he should die easy if he could succeed in that design. He was attended by several clergymen, but so callous was he, that they could make no

impression on his brutal stupidity, and he died at the gallows without the least remorse.

He was hung, September, 1735, at Skewis, where he committed the murders.

THOMAS & ANN SHAKESHAFT,

(Claiming the Flitch of Bacon.)

Thomas Shakeshaft.

A custom was instituted, in or about the year 1111, by Robert, son of Richard Fitz-Gilbert, Earl of Clare, that if any married couple would take a prescribed oath, kneeling upon two bare stones within the church-door, before the prior and brethren, they should have a gammon of bacon freely delivered to them, which is done with great ceremony.

THE OATH.

" You shall swear, by the custom of our confession,
" That you never made any nuptial transgression;
" Since you were married man and wife,
" By household brawls or contentious strife;
" Or otherwise, in bed, or at board,
" Offended each other in deed or in word;
" Or, since the parish-clerk said Amen,
" Wished yourselves unmarried again;
" Or, in a twelvemonth and a day,
" Repented not in thought any way,
" But continued true and in desire,
" As when you joined hands in holy quire:
" If to these conditions, without all fear,
" Of your own accord you will freely swear,
" A gammon of bacon you shall receive,
" And bear it hence with love and good leave;
" For this is our custom, at Dunmow well known,
" Though the sport be ours the bacon's your own.

The happy pair are then taken upon men's shoulders in a chair (kept for that purpose) and carried round the scite of the priory, from the church to the house, with minstrels of every description, and the gammon of bacon borne high on a pole before them, attended by the steward, gentlemen, and officers of the manor, and the several inferior tenants, carrying wands, &c. A jury of bachelors and maidens (six of each sex) follow two and two, with an immense multitude of other people, young and old, from all the neighbouring towns and villages thereabouts, and several more, that came from very great distances (to the amount of many thousands in the whole) rending the air with shouts and acclamations.

This custom is still kept up at Dunmow in Essex, which was formerly a priory. The last couple that claimed the bacon was Thomas Shakeshaft, of the parish of Weathersfield, in the county of Essex, weaver, and Ann his wife, who went to demand, and actually did receive, a gammon of bacon; having first knelt down upon two bare stones, within the church-door, and taken the oath pursuant to the ancient custom, in manner and form prescribed as aforesaid, the 20th of June, 1751; in commemoration of which a picture was painted, representing the procession,

and containing the portraits of the affectionate and happy couple.

Before the dissolution of monasteries it does not appear, by searching the most ancient records, to have been demanded above three times, and, including this, just as often since; so rare are the instances of perfect conjugal felicity in the marriage-state!

A similar custom with that at Dunmow prevailed in the county of Stafford. Sir Philip de Somerville held the manors of Whichenovre, Scirescot, Ridwane, Netherton, and Cowlee, all in the county of Stafford, of the earls of Lancaster, by this memorable service: "The said Sir Philip shall find, maintain, and sustain, one bacon-flitch, hanging in his hall at Whichenovre, ready arrayed at all times of the year but Lent, to be given to every man or woman married, after the day and the year of their marriage be past, in form following:—Whensoever that any such before-named will come to inquire for the bacon, in their own person, they shall come to the bailiff, or to the porter of the lordship of Whichenovre, and shall say to them in the manner as ensueth: '—— Bayliff, or porter, I do you to know, that I am come for myself, to demand one bacon-flyke, hanging in the hall of the lord of Whichenovre, after the form thereunto belonging.'

After which relation, the bailiff or porter shall assign a day to him, upon promise by his faith to return, and with him to bring twain of his neighbours. And in the mean time, the said bailiff shall take with him twain of the freeholders of the lordship of Whichenovre, and they three shall go to the manor of Rudlow, belonging to Robert Knightleye, and there shall summon the aforesaid Knightleye, or his bailiff, commanding him to be ready at Whichenovre, the day appointed, at prime of day, with his carriage, that is to say, a horse and saddle, a sack and a pryke, for to convey the said bacon and corn a journey out of the county of Stafford, at his costages. And then the said bailiff shall, with the said freeholders, summon all the tenants of the said manor, to be ready at the day appointed at Whichenovre, for to do and perform the services which they owe to the bacon. And at the day assigned, all such as owe services to the bacon shall be ready at the gate of the manor of Whichenovre, from the sun-rising to noon, attending and awaiting for the coming of him who fetcheth the bacon. And when he is come, then shall be delivered to him and his fellows chaplets, and to all those which shall be there, to do their service due to the bacon. And they shall lead the said demandant with

trumps and tabors, and other manner of minstrelsy, to the hall-door, where he shall find the Lord of Whichenovre, or his steward, ready to deliver the bacon in this manner:—

He shall inquire of him which demandeth the bacon, if he have brought twain of his neighbours with him; which must answer, 'they be here ready.' And then the steward shall cause these two neighbours to swear if the said demandant be a wedded man, or have been a man wedded; and if, since his marriage, one year and day be past; and if he be a freeman, or a villain.* And if his said neighbours make oath, that he hath for him all these three points rehearsed, then shall the bacon be taken down and brought to the hall-door, and shall there be laid upon one half-quarter of wheat, and upon one other of rye. And he that demandeth the bacon shall kneel upon his knee, and shall hold his right hand upon a book, which book shall be laid upon the bacon and the corn, and shall make oath in this manner:—

'Hear ye, Sir Philip de Somervile, Lord of Whichenovre, mayntener and gyver of this baconne: that I,

---

*That is, as the words then meant, 'a free man or a servant.'

A, sithe I wedded B, my wife, and sithe I had hyr in my keepying, and at my wylle, by a year and a day after our marriage, I would not have changed for none other; farer ne fowler; richer ne pourer; ne for none other descended of greater lynage; sleeping ne waking, at noo tyme. And if the seyd B were sole, and I sole, I would take her to be my wife before all the wymen of the worlde, of what condiciones soever they be, good or evylle; as help me God and his seyntes, and this flesh and all fleshes.'

"And his neighbours shall make oath, that they trust verily he hath said truly. And if it be found, by his neighbours before-named, that he be a freeman, there shall be delivered to him half a quarter of wheat and a cheese; and if he be a villain, he shall have half a quarter of rye without cheese. And then shall Knightleye, the lord of Rudlow, be called for, to carry all these things tofore rehearsed; and the said corn shall be laid on one horse and the bacon above it; and he to whom the bacon appertaineth, shall ascend upon his horse, and shall take the cheese before him, if he have a horse. And if he have none, the Lord of Whichenovre shall cause him to have one horse and saddle, to such time as he be passed his lordship; and so shall they depart the manor of

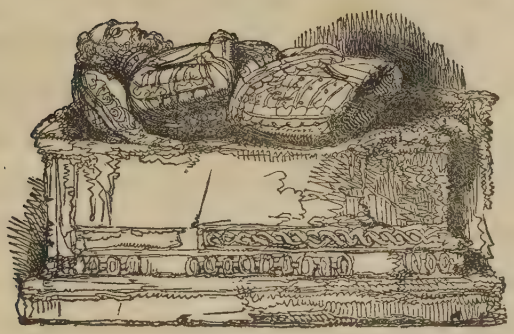
Whichenovre with the corn and the bacon, tofore him that hath won it, with trumpets, taborets, and other manner of minstrelsy. And all the free-tenants of Whichenovre shall conduct him to be passed the lordship of Whichenovre. And then shall they all return except him to whom appertaineth to make the carriage and journey without the county of Stafford, at the costs of his Lord of Whichenovre."

Robert Short.

THIS young man, from his childhood, had laboured under the dreadful disorder of the stone and gravel, for which he could not obtain the least relief, and continued to linger many years in excruciating agony and torment. His parents and friends, from the poverty of their circumstances, were unable to administer such comforts and surgical aid as his case required, and were compelled to apply to the charitable and laudable establishments of one of the public hospitals. Having procured a ticket, Short was admitted as an in-patient into St. Thomas's Hospital, Southwark; and, after a proper interval of time, underwent an operation, when, by the care and skill of the ablest surgeons, a stone was extracted from him of most extraordinary dimension, measuring eight inches in circumference. He continued in the hospital until a perfect cure was effected; and the case was deemed so singular, that a portrait of the man was engraved, with an exact representation of the stone.

ROBERT SHORT.

Remarkable as the case of Robert Short may appear, it is by no means without a parallel; many instances of similar cases often occurring. One in particular was that of Nicholas Byfield, a clergyman, in the reign of King James I. who had a benefice at Chester, but resided many years at Isleworth. This gentleman had a stone extracted from him of still greater magnitude than that taken from Short; was completely cured, and lived many years after the operation was performed. A portrait of him, from an original painting, in which is preserved the figure of the stone, was engraved for, and published by, William Richardson, printseller, in the Strand, in 1790.



Henry Simons.

HENRY SIMONS, a Polish Jew merchant, putting up at an inn, at Cranford-bridge, in the county of Middlesex, pretended to have been robbed by Goddard, the innkeeper, of 554 ducats he had about him in a belt. Upon this charge Goddard was tried at the Old Bailey, in September, 1751, and honorably acquitted: on which he preferred a bill of indictment against Simons for wilful and corrupt perjury; the grand jury finding it a true bill, a warrant was issued to apprehend the Jew. Mr. James Ashley, of the London punch-house, Ludgate-hill, happening to see him on the Essex road, gave a clue to his apprehension; but Ashley by this became involved in a scene of difficulty and trouble he little expected to experience, and which compelled him, on his own account, to prosecute the Jew for an assault. The particulars given by Ashley, on the trial, which took place at Chelmsford, 1752, were, "That, on the 6th of October, 1751, he was coming to London from a journey, when, between Ilford and Stratford, he saw

HENRY SIMONS,

(The Polish Jew.)

Simons travelling on foot towards Ilford; that he crossed the road with his chaise on purpose to have a full view of him, attracted by the uncommon habit he wore; and recognizing him to be the Jew who accused Goddard, on the following day he waited on Mr. Ford, Goddard's agent, informing him where he had seen Simons, the Jew, travelling. Mr. Ford earnestly pressed him, the witness, to take a warrant that he had in his hands against Simons, for perjury, and pursue him, and that his clerk, Mr. Newman, should accompany him. With great reluctance he consented; and Mr. Newman set out with him in a chaise that afternoon, towards Harwich, believing that Simons was going out of the kingdom. Near Witham, in Essex, witness was informed by a boy, to whom he described Simons, that he was not far before; he then encouraged the boy, who was on horseback, to pursue Simons, which he did, and presently after they came up and took him; they then placed him in a cart that was going to Witham, from out of which Simons jumped, and endeavoured to make his escape, but was soon after re-taken, and carried to Witham; where they delivered him, with the warrant, into the hands of Mr. Hubbard, the constable, who kept him all night. The next morning

they went with him before Justice Bragg, and as the justices were sitting at Chelmsford, it was deemed advisable to take him there; but the justices not choosing to commit him, advised witness, and the constable who had the charge, to carry him to London. While at the Saracen's-head, in Chelmsford, he observed Simons, who sat in one corner of the room, pull out a green purse, and count some money; and witness thought there was some gold in it: after this Simons desired to speak with him, but he refused, and soon after went out of the room to engage a post-chaise, to carry them to London. When witness returned, Simons again desired to speak to him, which he consented to, and stooped down to hear what he had to say; but presently after Simons called out *My gilt! my gilt! my gilt! my ducats in pocket*, and pointed to witness's pocket; but, not conceiving what he meant, the defendant cried out, *Ne, ne, not dat pocket, toder pocket;* when the witness pulling his handkerchief from his right-hand pocket, there dropped out a ducat: this much surprised witness, who said, 'Here is some of the man's money, indeed; but how it came here I cannot tell.' Feeling again, he found two ducats more, among some walnuts that were in his pocket;

he then informed Alderman Gascoigne (who was at that time in the house) of what had passed, and by his orders the defendant was searched, but they found about him only one shilling and ninepence halfpenny; he afterwards brought the defendant to London, who, on being carried before Justice Fielding, was committed to New Prison."

On his cross-examination he was asked, if, when he met Simons, he did not speak to him, and pull out some ducats, or other gold, and shew them to Simons? Mr. Ashley said, he only crossed the road to look at him, but did not speak to him, or pull out any money; and that he never had seen a ducat in his life before those he took from his pocket at Chelmsford.

Six witnesses were called, and examined on the part of the prosecution, who all corroborated, in every particular, the deposition of Mr. Ashley, the first witness. In defence, the counsel for the prisoner called Hyam Levi (a Jew) who being sworn deposed, that, on the 8th day of August last, he and Henry Simons, the defendant, landed at Harwich, from Holland; that, when they came on-shore, they were examined by the Custom-house searcher, as usual; that Simons had a large belt on that would hold

above a thousand ducats, and that it appeared to be above half full; that it is the custom of the Polish Jews to carry their money about them in a belt, which is hollow, and opens near the buckle, for the purpose of receiving money. He advised Simons to leave his money with a gentleman at Harwich, who would send it him to London; but that Simons replied, he would not leave it with any person; no, not with his own father. *That at Harwich, he, the witness, pulled out a gold watch* to see what it was o'clock; which the defendant observing, said, he should want two gold repeating-watches, and desired that he would help him to a good workman likely to use him well, for that he had resolved to have the best, if he gave 40*l.* or 50*l.* each for them.—Witness came on for London, and left the defendant behind, who would not travel on the sabbath. That on the Tuesday following, he saw the defendant in London, and went to lodge with Barrant Abrahams. Being asked, if he counted the number of ducats the defendant carried about him; said, he did not, but supposes there were above half a thousand, for the belt was above half full.

William Payce, searcher of the customs at Harwich, deposed, that he examined Henry Simons, the

defendant, when he landed at Harwich, the 8th of August last; that he then saw the defendant had a large quantity of ducats about him in his belt. On his cross-examination, he was asked, if the defendant pulled out all that was in the belt? and if he were sure the belt contained nothing but ducats? he replied, that the defendant shook into his hand, he believed, forty or fifty ducats; and that, knowing it was the custom of those people to carry their money in belts, he concluded the whole quantity to be ducats.

Sarah Abrahams deposed, that about the 12th of August last, Henry Simons, the defendant, came to lodge at her house; that he said, he came from Poland, and shewed her his belt, wherein was a large quantity of ducats, which he told her he brought into England to lay out in watches, and other goods. The defendant lodged with her till he left London for Bristol; and, on his putting his ducats in the belt, she counted them, and is certain there were 554 at that time.

Many Jews, of respectable character, among whom was the clerk of the synagogue, deposed to the knowledge of his having a large sum of money; and to his subsequent distress, insomuch as being obliged to pawn his veil, which is a thing the religious among the Jews never do, but at the last extremity.

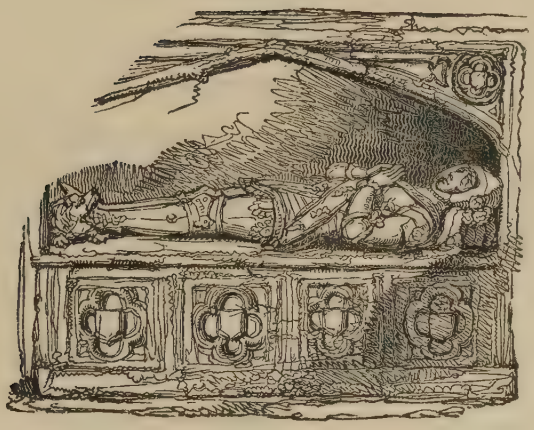
The judge having summed up the evidence on both sides, the jury brought the defendant in GUILTY.

Some mistake appearing as to the express terms in which the jury had delivered their verdict, application was made to them severally, when they declared on oath, that they did not find Simons guilty of putting the ducats into the prosecutor's pocket with a felonious intent. On this the Court of King's Bench was moved for a new trial, which was granted; and, in the mean while, actions were brought against Ashley, the constable, and lawyer's clerk, for altering the warrant, and illegally detaining in custody Henry Simons, until the warrant was properly backed. The cause was tried before Lord Chief-justice Lee, at Guildhall, July 9, 1752, when the Jew obtained a verdict, with 200*l.* damages, against James Ashley, Richard Taylor, and John Newman.

Henry Simons was a second time tried at the Summer assizes, at Chelmsford, in Essex, before the Hon. Mr. Justice Dennison, 1752, and acquitted.

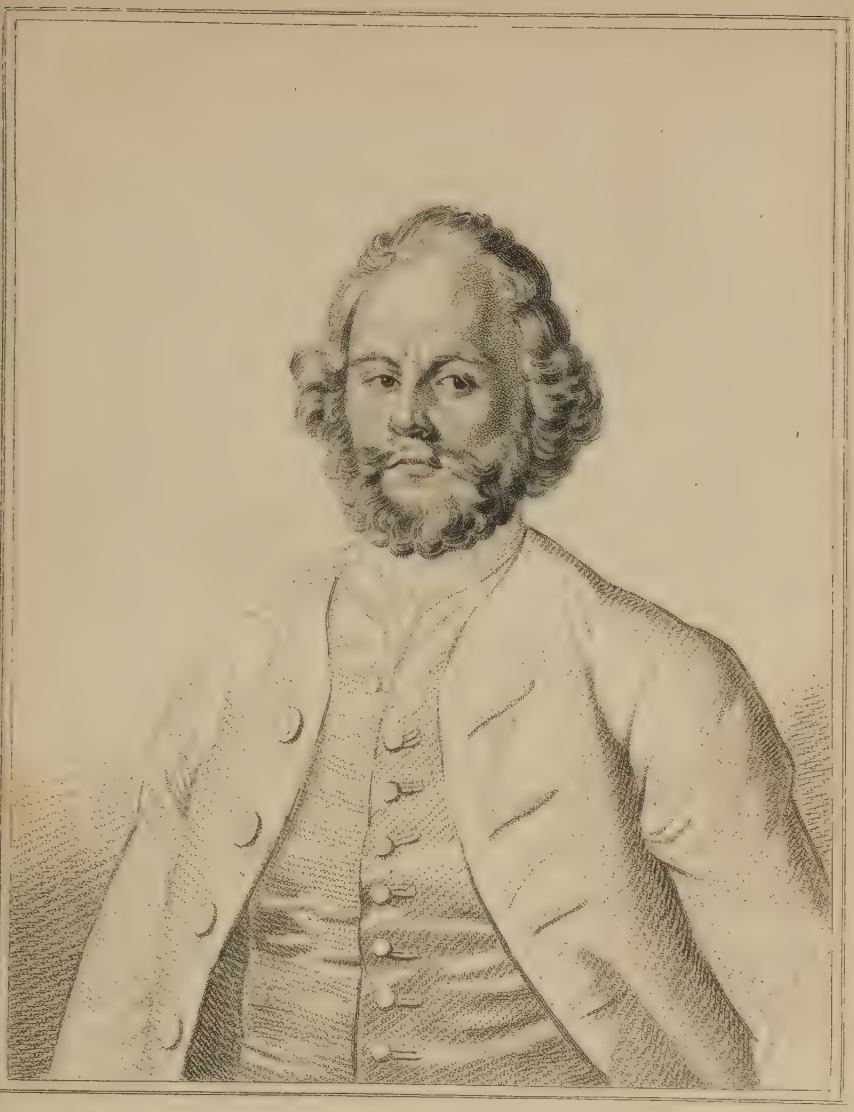
That the Jew was in possession of a considerable sum of money, on his arrival at Harwich, is proved by the evidence of William Payce, the searcher of the customs at that port; and it is very likely he lost the money in Goddard's house, at Cranford-bridge, but

could not bring the robbery home sufficiently to convict Goddard. All the recompense the Jew received for the loss of his money was, the 200*l.* damages against Ashley, and two others, for false imprisonment.



Layton Smith.

LAYTON SMITH was confined many years in the Fleet-Prison, for debt; and, on his first entrance into that place, made a solemn vow never to have his beard shaven, until he should obtain his release. Acts for the relief of insolvent debtors were not in his time so frequent as they have been of later years; and, since Lord Redesdale's bill to limit the term of imprisonment for debt to three months duration, none but the most barefaced fraudulent debtor are retained in confinement longer than is absolutely necessary to comply with the regular forms specified in the bill. Poor Smith, it appears, kept his vow religiously, and died under confinement, without permitting a razor ever to touch his chin. It was not vanity that induced him to sit for his portrait; but the singularity of his appearance and character, gave rise to John Faber's engraving, and publishing his likeness. A still more extraordinary person than this man, was Richard Smith, a bookbinder, and prisoner for debt within the liberties of the King's-Bench;



LAYTON SMITH.

who, on Tuesday, the 18th of April, 1732, was, with *Bridget* his wife, found dead in their house in Blackman-street, Southwark. They were discovered, about eight o'clock in the morning, hanging near their bed, about a yard distant from each other, with a loaded pistol by the man, and a case-knife by the woman; and, in another room, their little child, about two years old, was found in a cradle shot through the head. In the room were found the following letters; one directed to his landlord, in which were enclosed the two others to Mr. Brindley, a bookbinder, in New Bond-street, and the shilling as therein-mentioned:—

To Mr. Brightred.

"SIR.—The necessity of my affairs has obliged me to give you this trouble; I hope I have left more than is sufficient for the money I owe you. I beg of you, that you'll be pleased to send these enclosed papers as directed, immediately, by some porter, and that without shewing them to any one. Your humble servant,

Richard Smith.

P. S. I have a suit of black clothes at the Cock, in Mint-street, which lies for 17*s.* 6*d.* If you can find

any chap for my dog and ancient cat it would be kind. I have here sent a shilling for the porter."

"*Cousin Brindley*,

"It is now about the time I promised payment to Mr. Brooks, which I have performed in the best manner I was able. I wish it had been done more to your satisfaction; but the thing was impossible. I here return you my hearty thanks for the favors which I have received; it being all the tribute I am able to pay. There is a certain anonymous person, whom you have some knowledge of, who, I am informed, has taken some pains to make the world believe he has done me services; I wish that said person had never troubled his head about my affairs; I am sure he had no business with them; for it is entirely owing to his meddling, that I came pennyless into this place; whereas, had I brought twenty pounds in with me, which I could easily have done, I could not then have missed getting my bread here, and in time have been able to come to terms with my plaintiff; whose lunacy, I believe, could not have lasted always. I must not here conclude, for my meddling friend's man, *Sancho Pancho*, would perhaps take it ill, did I not make mention of him; therefore, if it lies in

your way, let *Sancho* know, that his impudence and insolence were not so much forgotten, as despised. I shall now make an end of this epistle, desiring you to publish the enclosed; as to the manner how, I leave it entirely to your judgment. That all happiness may attend you and yours, is the prayer of your affectionate kinsman even to death.

Richard Smith.

P.S. If it lies in your way, let that good-natured man, Mr. *Duncome* know, that I remembered him with my latest breath."

To Mr. Brindley.

"These actions considered in all their circumstances, being somewhat uncommon, it may not be improper to give some account of the cause, and that it was an inveterate hatred we conceived against poverty and rags; evils, that through a train of unlucky accidents were become inevitable; for we appeal to all that ever knew us, whether we were either idle or extravagant; whether or no we have not taken as much pains for our living as our neighbours, although not attended with the same success. We apprehend, the taking our child's life away to be a circumstance for which we shall be generally condemned; but, for

our own parts, we are perfectly easy upon that head. We are satisfied it is less cruelty to take the child with us, even supposing a state of annihilation, as some dream of, than to leave her friendless in the world, exposed to ignorance and misery. Now, in order to obviate some censures, which may proceed either from ignorance or malice, we think it proper to inform the world, that we firmly believe the existence of Almighty God; that this belief of ours is not an implicit faith, but deduced from the nature and reason of things; we believe the existence of an Almighty Being, from the consideration of his wonderful works; from a consideration of those innumerable celestial and glorious bodies, and from their wonderful order and harmony. We have also spent some time in viewing those wonders, which are to be seen in the minute part of the world, and that with great pleasure and satisfaction; from all which particulars, we are satisfied that such amazing things could not possibly be without a first mover, without the existence of an Almighty Being; and, as we know the wonderful God to be almighty, so we cannot help believing but that he is also good, not implacable; not like such wretches as men are; not taking delight in the miseries of his creatures; for which reason, we resign up our breath unto him

without any terrible apprehensions, submitting ourselves to those ways, which in his goodness he shall please to appoint after death: we also believe the existence of unbodied creatures, and think we have reason for that belief; although we do not pretend to know their way of subsisting. We are not ignorant of those laws made *in terrorem*, but leave the disposal of our bodies to the wisdom of the coroner and his jury; the thing being indifferent to us, where our bodies are laid; from whence it will appear how little anxious we are about a *hic jacet;* we, for our parts, neither expect nor desire such honours, but shall content ourselves with a borrowed epitaph, which we shall insert in this paper.

> Without a name, for ever silent, dumb;
> Dust, ashes, nought else is within this tomb;
> Where we were born or bred, it matters not,
> Who were our parents, or hath us begot;
> We were, but now are not; think no more of us,
> For as we are, so you'll be turned to dust.

It is the opinion of naturalists, that our bodies are, at certain stages of life, composed of new matter; so that a great many poor men have new bodies oftener than new clothes: now as divines are not able to inform us which of those several bodies

shall rise at the resurrection, it is very probable, that the deceased body may be for ever silent as well as any other.

"*Richard Smith.*

"*Bridget Smith.*"

The coroner's inquest for prisoners in the King's Bench sat on the body of the man, and brought him in *felo de se;* and the inquest for the lord mayor's liberty sat on the bodies of the woman and the child, and brought in the woman the same; and that the man was guilty of wilful murder as to the child.

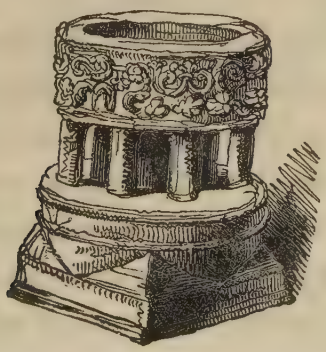
We find that in every neighbourhood where they formerly lived, they were esteemed among the neighbours as an honest, industrious, frugal, and loving couple; and, to the last part of the character, their pitiable catastrophe forms too convincing and melancholy a testimony. This poor man was so honest, that he went, a few days before his tragical end, to a neighbouring woman, to whom he owed the small sum of four shillings, and told her he could not give her money, but that if she would come to his house, and select from what he possessed, any thing she stood in need of about that value, she should have it: the woman generously refused the offer, and told him he

should pay it when he was able; and if he were never enabled, she would forgive him the debt.

Layton Smith, during his confinement in the Fleet prison, rendered many essential services to his fellow-prisoners. Under an impression of one of his portraits is inscribed:—

"Reader,

"Behold here the portrait of Layton Smith, who, during the raging of a contagious fever in the Fleet prison, administered to the wants and necessities of the persons confined there, like the good Bishop of Marseilles, till it pleased the Almighty to assuage the raging of the fever; and, like a second Phineas, he escaped from the evil of the epidemic calamity, unhurt or unimpaired in health; but remained a monument of charity and beneficence towards his fellow-prisoners.



Hannah Snell.

HANNAH SNELL was born in Fryer-street, Worcester, on the 23d of April, 1723; her father carried on the business of a hosier and dyer, in that city; and brought up a family of nine children, three sons and six daughters; all of whom, except one daughter, became either soldiers or sailors, or intermarried with them. The eldest of the sons, Samuel Snell, enlisted himself a soldier, in Lord Robert Manners' company, of the First Foot Guards, commanded by His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland; when he was draughted to go for Flanders, and, at the battle of *Fontenoy*, received a mortal wound; of which he expired in the hospital at *Doway*.

The youngest of the daughters, Hannah, when she was scarce ten years of age, gave evident proofs of her natural heroism; declaring, at that early period, to her young companions, that she would be a soldier, if she lived. As a preceding specimen of this intention, she formed a company of young soldiers, among her playfellows; acting as chief-commander at their head, and

Maddocks sculp.

HANNAH SNELL,

(Born at Worcester 1723.)

frequently parading the whole city of Worcester.—This body of young volunteers was admired all over the town; and was styled young *Amazon Snell's* company. The martial spirit Hannah evinced at this early age, grew up with her, until it carried her through the many scenes and vicissitudes she afterwards encountered.

Though the other daughters of Mr. Snell were, by those who knew them, accounted genteel, amiable women, we must pass over the other five, to notice only the subject of this memoir, who, on the death of her father and mother, came up to London, on Christmas-day, 1740, and resided with her sister, in Ship-street, Wapping.

Some time after her arrival, she formed an acquaintance with James Summs, a Dutch sailor, whom she married at the Fleet, on the 6th of January, 1743-4. This marriage, however, turned out very unfortunate to our heroine; who, though possessing sufficient charms to secure the affections of any reasonable man, soon became neglected and despised by her husband. He frequented the company of women of the basest character; made away with her things to support him and his companions in their debauchery and luxury. Hannah, during this time, proved with child, and

experienced all the biting necessities poverty could inflict, without exposing her distresses to her nearest friends. When she was only seven months advanced in pregnancy, her husband, finding himself deeply involved in debt, made an elopement, and quitted the country; two months after she was delivered of a daughter; which living no more than seven months, was decently buried, at her own expense, in St. George's parish, Middlesex.

From the time of her husband's departure until the time she put on man's clothes, she continued with her sister, who had married James Gray, a house-carpenter, and lived in Ship-street, Wapping.

Being free of any incumbrance, Hannah Snell now formed the romantic notion of putting on male attire, and of going in search of her run-a-way husband.—Dressed in a suit of her brother-in-law's (Mr. James Gray) clothes, she assumed his name; and, on the 23d of November, 1745, set out for Coventry, where she enlisted on the 27th of the same month, in General Guise's regiment, in the company commanded by Captain Miller, with a view, as she expresses, of finding her husband in the course of her military career.

Her stay at Coventry was about three weeks, when,

in company with seventeen other recruits, she was marched to the north, then the seat of war; and where her regiment lay in quarters at Carlisle. During this march she appeared as little weary as any of her fellow-travellers; and performed that long journey in twenty-two days. While Hannah remained at Carlisle, she fell into a very painful and disagreeable dilemma. A man named Davis, her serjeant, having formed a criminal inclination for a young woman in that town, and looking upon Hannah as a proper person to assist him in his vicious intrigue, disclosed his secret, and desired her assistance in accomplishing his purpose; but naturally disliking the part she was to act, went and disclosed the whole matter to the young woman; who, in consequence, broke of all connection with the serjeant, and cultivated an intimacy and friendship with the other. Davis, shortly after, continuing his customary visits, met with a repulse that greatly mortified and astonished him: jealously suspecting his confident as the cause, and that through *his* rivalship the affections of his mistress were alienated, he determined to revenge himself, by rendering our female soldier liable to military chastisement.

He availed himself of the earliest opportunity, and accused her before the commanding-officer, for neglect

of duty; upon which she was sentenced to receive six hundred lashes; five hundred of which she received, having her hands tied to the Castle gates; and the punishment of the other hundred would have been inflicted, had not the intercession of some of the officers prevented it. Not long after another accident occurred, which gave our heroine no small uneasiness. George Beck, an acquaintance of Hannah's, from having lodged with her brother when in Wapping, happened to arrive at Carlisle; and she fearing that he would recognise her, and betray the secret of her sex, came to the resolution of deserting her regiment, although still smarting under the pain of her unmerited punishment.

Thus determined, she shaped her course for Portsmouth, that being the place she designed to reach, if possible. When she had got about a mile from Carlisle, she observed some people picking and bagging pease in a field, and seeing their clothes lying at a distance, she pulled off her own regimental coat, and left it there, taking an old coat for it belonging to one of the men, that she might in her travels be the less suspected for a deserter. She was about a month in travelling from Carlisle to Portsmouth; but nothing material happened, except being very much fatigued

in her long journey, and the dread of being pursued by a party from her regiment.

Disdaining a life of indolent ease and inactivity, she resolved to go abroad; and, in order thereto, once more boldly enlisted herself for a marine, in Captain Graham's company, belonging to Colonel Frazer's regiment. She had not been enlisted above three weeks in the marines, before a draught was made out of the same, to go on-board Admiral Boscawen's fleet, to the East Indies; upon which she was ordered on-board the Swallow sloop-of-war, Capt. Rosier, for that expedition. On the voyage she made herself remarkable by her dexterity and address; and was greatly caressed by her messmates, for her readiness either to wash and mend their linen, or stand cook as occasion required. After a terrible hurricane, in which the fleet was separated, the Swallow sloop sprung her main-mast, and not only lost her gib-boom, but her top-masts also, and with great difficulty made the port of Lisbon in safety.

After this narrow escape, the Swallow made the best of her way to Gibraltar; and no sooner was she refitted there, but she set sail for the Madeira islands; where she took in such quantity of wines, and other provisions, as was thought requisite for the pursuit of

her intended voyage. From the Madeiras, the fleet proceeded to the Cape of Good Hope; and then set sail for the French islands, on the east of Madagascar. Not succeeding in their attacks here, the admiral abandoned the place, and set sail directly for Fort St. David's. There the marines were disembarked: and having joined the English army, in about six weeks they arrived at *Areacopong*, where they directly encamped, with a firm resolution to lay siege to the place, and, if possible, to take it by storm. For nine days successively they carried on the siege, and met with a very vigorous repulse; but, on the 10th, a shell from the English falling very fortunately on the enemy's magazine, it blew up at once; by which means they were reduced to the necessity of surrendering at discretion. This adventure animated our heroine, and gave her a fairer opportunity of displaying her intrepidity and thirst after glory; and she embraced it in such a manner, that she gained the applause of all her officers. James Gray, (for that was the name she took upon herself) was one of the party that was ordered under Lieutenant Campbell, of the independent companies, to fetch up some stores from the water-side, that had been landed out of the fleet; in so doing, they had several skirmishes, and one of the

common men fell close on her right side; upon which she fired and killed the very man that shot her comrade; and was very near Lieutenant Campbell when he was wounded. She was also in the first party of the English foot that forded the river to get over to Pondicherry, it reaching to her breast, and attended with great danger, as the French kept continually firing on them from a battery of twelve guns. On the 11th of August she was put on the picquet-guard, and continued on that guard seven nights successively; and was one of a party that lay two days and two nights without any covering, in going through the barrier; and as she was likewise put on duty in the trenches some part of the siege, she was compelled to sit or stand all the while near middle-deep in water. At the throwing up of the trenches she worked very hard for about fourteen days; and was paid *5d.* English money per day, by one Mr. Melton, who afterwards heard her sing at Goodman's-fields Wells.

During this long space of time our heroine still maintained her wonted intrepidity, behaving in every respect consistent with the character of a brave British soldier; and, notwithstanding she stood so deep in water, fired no less than thirty-seven rounds of shot.

In the course of the engagement, she received six shots in her right leg, and five in the left; and, what affected her more than all the rest, one so dangerous in the groin, that had she applied for any surgical assistance her sex must inevitably have been discovered.

In this extremity, sooner than render herself liable to detection, she resolved on endeavouring to extract the ball; whereupon, without discovering herself, she communicated her intention to a black woman, who attended her in the hospital; and who had access both to medicines and surgical instruments.

The black readily afforded all the assistance she could, by bringing her lint and salve to dress the wound with; and the manner she extracted the ball was full hardy and desperate. Though suffering under the acutest pain, she probed the wound with her finger till she discovered where the ball lay; and then, upon feeling it, thrust in both her finger and thumb to the accomplishment of her desires. After performing this operation, she applied some of the healing salves which the black had furnished her with, and by their help she effected a perfect cure of this dangerous wound; rewarding her faithful assistant with the pre-

sent of a rupee. As to the many other wounds she had in both her legs, they were all (through the care and skill of able surgeons) absolutely healed in the compass of three months.

During her residence in the hospital, the greater part of the fleet had sailed; and as soon as she was perfectly restored to her health and strength, she was sent on-board the *Tartar Pink*, which, at that time, was riding in the harbour, and continued in it till the return of the fleet from Madras, performing the duty of a common sailor. Soon after the fleet's return she was turned over to the *Eltham* man-of-war, *Capt. Lloyd*, commander, and set sail for Bombay, where they arrived in less than a fortnight. Giving umbrage to the first lieutenant, and being accused of stealing a seaman's shirt, she was put in irons; in which she lay for five days, underwent the discipline of twelve lashes at the gangway, and continued at the foretop-mast-head for four hours. The shirt was soon after found in a chest belonging to the man, who it was said had lost it.

After encountering a variety of dangers and adventures, Hannah Snell returned to Europe in the *Eltham*, and safely made the port of Lisbon, in the

year 1749; where the ship was to take in a very considerable sum of money, for the use of some of the merchants then residing in London.

One day as Hannah was on-shore at Lisbon, in her way home to England, she, in company with several of her ship-mates, by mere accident, went into an Irish house of public entertainment, in order to refresh themselves with a glass or two of liquor. In an adjoining box sat an English sailor, who had lately been at Genoa, on-board a Dutch vessel; and as some of our adventurer's ship-mates knew him perfectly well, they joined company. After several merry stories had gone round, as well as the glass, Hannah being very inquisitive, and desirous, if possible, to hear some tidings of her ungrateful husband, asked this young sailor whether he knew any thing of an old acquaintance of her's, a Dutch tar, who went by the name of *Jemmy Summs*.

Upon this, greatly to her surprise, he related to the whole company the following remarkable particulars: "While I was on-shore at Genoa, there was a Dutchman, a brother tar, of that very same name, under close confinement in the city, for having wounded with his *sneeker-snee* not only a native of the place,

but a gentleman of some distinction, so desperately, that after lingering in dreadful agonies for four days he died. As Summs was a particular acquaintance, myself, and three or four of my ship-mates, agreed to pay him a visit, to condole with him under his misfortunes. When we got to the prison-door, and desired admittance, one of the keepers introduced us to our friend's gloomy habitation, where he lay in a very dejected posture on the ground, with his head reclining upon his hand; he raised himself, and saluted us in English; upon which we began to inquire into the grounds of the quarrel, and the cause of his confinement. This he waved giving any particular account of; but said:—'My dear friends, I am conscious that I carried my resentment too far, and that death awaits me, as a punishment for my crime. It is not this, however, that renders me so dejected, so restless and uneasy;—I have still a blacker crime to answer for, which haunts me every hour of my life. I am by extraction a Dutchman, my name James Summs; and business calling me to London a few years ago, I resided in Wapping for some considerable time. In this interval I paid my addresses to a young woman, whose name was *Hannah Snell*, and

was very successful and happy, as I then imagined, in my amours. In short, I married her; and, in process of time, finding her with child, my love abated; and, contrary to the ties of humanity, and the duty of a husband, I left her helpless and destitute of all the conveniences of life; and for aught I know to the contrary, murdered her. But I hope all of you will be so charitable as to make inquiry after my poor distressed wife, and to acquaint her, if ever you should see her, that the thoughts of death do not distract my mind half so much as the conviction of the distress to which I so inhumanly exposed her; that I sincerely repent as much of my sin against her, as of that, in particular, which my life is to atone for, though my crime, it is true, is of the deepest stain; and could I but hope she would pardon and forgive me, I should die in peace.'

"After the fullest assurances that we would make all the inquiries, and report him as he wished, we shook him by the hand, and took our last farewell.—Not one of us ever saw him after that melancholy visit; but were informed, however, that he was not executed publicly, as malefactors are in London, but that he was sewed up in a large bag, in which was a

sufficient quantity of stones to make him sink, and then thrown headlong into the sea."

Hannah listened with the utmost attention to this melancholy tale; and, pondering on every little incident, she found the circumstances all concurred so far as to leave no question of the murderer being her unhappy husband; and, on withdrawing from her company, indulged in her grief for the untimely fate of the wretched partner of her bed.

Our adventurer went from Lisbon, the 3d of May, on-board the Eltham; and, on the 1st of June following, arrived, with the rest of her ship-mates, safe at Spithead. Overjoyed at the sight once more of her native country, she went on-shore the very day of her arrival; and took lodgings, together with several of her comrades, at the sign of the Jolly Marine and Sailor, in Portsmouth. The various adventures in this woman's life, until her return to her brother-in-law's house, in Wapping, where she was kindly welcomed, would furnish sufficient materials to fill a volume.

She now threw off her male attire, and resumed the petticoats; and her story, and the wounds she had received in the King's service, induced some of her friends to present a petition in her favor to his Royal

Highness the Duke of Cumberland, who procured a pension to be settled on her of one shilling per day for life.

Hannah Snell performed and sung several songs at the theatre in Godman's-fields, and died at the age of 56, in the year 1779.

JOHN SWAN & ELIZ.th JEFFRYES.

John Swan, and Elizabeth Jeffries.

Mr. Jeffries, at one time a capital butcher in London, retired to Walthamstow, in Essex, to live on his fortune; and, being a widower, without children, had taken his niece, Elizabeth Jeffries, to reside with him.

John Swan was brought up to the occupation of husbandry, and was engaged in the service of Mr. Jeffries, after having lived with several other persons. A dreadful outcry being heard at Walthamstow, about two o'clock in the morning of the 3d of July, 1751, Mr. Buckle, a near neighbour of Mr. Jeffries, awaked his wife, who said, "it is Miss Jeffries' tongue." Mrs. Buckle, then going to the window, said, "There is Miss Jeffries in her shift, without shoe or stocking, at a neighbour's door." On asking the cause of her strange appearance at that unusual hour? she exclaimed, "Oh! they have killed him, they have killed him, I fear." Desiring her to cover herself, she entreatingly said, "Don't mind me; see after my uncle." Mr. Buckle went immediately to

the house, and the door was opened to him by Swan. The first object was Mr. Jeffries lying on his right side, having three wounds on the uppermost part of his head. The visitor taking him by the hand, said, "My name is Edward Buckle; if you cannot speak, signify to me;" on which Jeffries squeezed him by the hand. Some hours after this, Miss Jeffries desired Mr. Buckle to send information through the country of the murder of her uncle, with an account of such effects as had been stolen; which a Mrs. Martin said were, a silver-tankard, a silver-cup, and fifteen pewter plates. Mr. Buckle said, "If I could light on Matthews, I would take him up." No, said Miss Jeffries, do not meddle with him, for you will bring me into trouble, and yourself too, in so doing. Matthews, however, was taken into custody, and from his apprehension, and other circumstances, the following facts came to light. Having travelled from Yorkshire, in search of work, he was accidentally met on Epping-forest by Mr. Jeffries, who, seeing him in distress, took him home to work as an assistant to Swan in the garden: the agreement being that he should have no wages, but his food only as a gratuity.

After he had been four days in this service, Miss

Jeffries sent him up stairs to wipe a chest of drawers and some chairs; but presently following said, "what will you do, if a person gave you a hundred pounds;" he said, "any thing in an honest way;" on which she desired him to go to Swan, and he would tell him. Swan being in the garden, Matthews went to him, and told his message; on which Swan smiled, took him to an out-house, and promised, if he would knock the old miser, his master, on the head, he would give him 100*l*. Two days afterwards, Mr. Jeffries dismissed Matthews from his service, and gave him a shilling; and Swan, about the same time, gave him half-a-guinea to purchase a brace of pistols, to murder their master.

Matthews being possessed of this cash, went to the Green Man at Low Layton, where he spent all his money, and then proceeded towards London, when, being overtaken on the road by Swan, the latter asked him where he was going? Matthews said to London: on which the other took him to Mr. Gall's, the Green Man and Bell, in Whitechapel, where they drank freely till night; and, Swan being intoxicated, swore he would fight the best man in the house for a guinea. He likewise pulled off his great-coat, and threw it on the fire; but the landlord taking

it off, and finding it very heavy, searched the pockets, in which he found a brace of pistols. This circumstance giving rise to unfavorable suspicions, both the men were lodged in the round-house for that night; and, being carried before Sir Samuel Gower the next day, he committed them to Clerkenwell Bridewell, as disorderly persons.

Miss Jeffries being made acquainted with their situation, gave bail for their appearance; and they all went to Gall's house, in Whitechapel, where she upbraided Matthews with bringing Swan into difficulty. He denied that he had done so; on which she gave him a shilling, and desired Swan to tell him to meet them at the Yorkshire Grey, at Stratford. Matthews went as agreed upon, but found only Swan there, who gave him half-a-crown, and bade him meet him at six the next morning, at the Buck, on Epping-forest. This he did, and, by appointment, came to Walthamstow on the Tuesday following, at ten o'clock at night.

When Matthews arrived, he found the garden-door on the latch, and going into the pantry, hid himself behind a tub till about eleven o'clock, when Swan brought him some cold boiled beef. About twelve Miss Jeffries and Swan came to him; when the latter

said, "Now it is time to knock the old miser, my master, on the head." Matthews relented, and said, "I cannot find in my heart to do it;" to which Miss Jeffries replied, "You may be damned for a villain, for not performing your promise." Swan, who was provided with pistols, likewise damned Matthews, and said he had a mind to blow his brains out for the refusal. Swan then produced a book, and insisted that Matthews should swear that he would not discover what had passed; which he did, with this reserve, "not unless it was to save his own life." Soon after this Matthews heard the report of a pistol; when, getting out of the house by the back way, he crossed the ferry, and proceeded to Enfield-chase.

It has been mentioned, that Miss Jeffries was found in her shift, after the commission of the murder. We have now to add, that she screamed out "Diaper! Diaper! for God's sake, help! murder! fire! thieves!" The neighbour, Mr. Diaper, saw Miss Jeffries half-way out of her window, endeavouring to get down. Mr. Diaper and a Mr. Clarke entered the house, and searched diligently; but could find no traces of any person having quitted the premises, as there was a dew on the grass, which did not appear to be disturbed. Swan went to fetch Mr. Forbes, a

surgeon, at Woodford, who observed congealed blood in the room, and examined the wounds, which, on the trial, he declared to have been mortal. Swan appeared much frightened at the time; and said, he wished that he had died with his master, for that he would have lost his own life to have saved him. As there appeared no marks of any person having been in the house, but those belonging to the family, violent suspicions began to arise. Mr. Jeffries died in great agonies, at eight o'clock on the following evening.

Miss Jeffries was taken into custody on suspicion, and examined by two magistrates, to whom she confessed that she heard the report of a pistol, and found her uncle murdered. No evidence arising to criminate her, she proved her uncle's will at Doctor's Commons, and took possession of his estate; but the coroner's inquest having sat on the body, and some further circumstances of doubt arising, she and Swan were committed to prison; and bills of indictment being found against them, they were put to the bar, and their counsel moved for an immediate trial. This was opposed by the counsel for the prosecution, on account of the absence of Matthews, who, it was presumed, would become a material evidence. The counsel on both sides used all the arguments in their

power; but the trial was deferred till the following assizes. In the interim, Mr. Gall, of the public-house in Whitechapel, resolved, if possible, to take Matthews into custody; and, conversing with one Mr. Smith, he told him that he had seen Matthews come out of the India-house; when, on inquiry, it was found that he had engaged to enter into the service of the East-India Company, and was at a house in Abel's-buildings, Rosemary-lane. Being taken into custody on a warrant, he was admitted an evidence for the crown, and the trial of Swan and Jeffries came on at Chelmsford, on the 11th of March, 1752, before Judge Wright.

Miss Jeffries fainted repeatedly during the trial, and was once in fits for the space of half-an-hour. The evidence of Matthews was exceedingly clear; and many corroborative circumstances arising, the jury found the culprits guilty, and they received sentence of death. After conviction, Miss Jeffries acknowledged the justice of her sentence; and said, she had deliberated on the murder for two years past, but could find no opportunity of getting it executed, till she engaged Swan in the business; and they jointly offered Matthews money to perpetrate it.

Swan, for some time, expressed great resentment at

Miss Jeffries' confession; but when he learnt that he was to be hung in chains, he began to relent, and seemed at length to behold his crime in its true light of enormity. On the day of execution they left the prison at four in the morning, Miss Jeffries being placed in a cart, and Swan on a sledge. The unhappy woman had frequent fits during the journey; but, before she came to the place of execution, her spirits became more composed. Swan appeared to be a real penitent, and joined with the utmost earnestness in the prayers of the clergyman who attended them. Miss Jeffries told the clergyman, that she had been seduced by her uncle, while his wife was living, and that he had given her medicines to procure abortion at two different times; though, for the truth of this we have no evidence but her own declaration. She fainted just before she was tied up, nor had she recovered when the cart drew away.

They were executed near the six mile-stone, on Epping-forest, on the 28th of March, 1752; and the body of Miss Jeffries having been delivered to her friends for interment, the gibbet was removed to another part of the forest, where Swan was hung in chains.

Miss Jeffries and her uncle had not lived on the

best terms for some time; he frequently expressed himself displeased with her conduct, and the day following the murder, it was Mr. Jeffries' intention to have made a considerable alteration in his will, in favor of a daughter-in-law, named Martin, and to have provided for her and her family; this, in all probability, accelerated the fatal catastrophe. Miss Jeffries confessed she went into her uncle's room to see if he were asleep, and took a silver-tankard, a silver-cup, and some silver-spoons, from off a chest of drawers; and with Swan went into the kitchen and took some pewter and brass utensils off the shelves, which they put in a new sack, for Swan to conceal, in order to give colour to a supposed robbery of the house.

John Taylor.

JOHN TAYLOR having had the fortune to perform a few successful cures in disorders of the eye, became so puffed up with pride and vanity, that he considered himself superior to any operator or physician of his time: nor was his son the least inferior to his father in conceit. The latter resided many years in Hatton-garden, and followed his father's profession of an oculist, with considerable reputation. In the year 1761, Mr. Taylor published the life of his father, with the following pompous title:—

"The Life and extraordinary History of the Chevalier John Taylor, Member of the most celebrated Academies, Universities, and Societies of the Learned—Chevalier in several of the first Courts in the World—Illustrious (by patent) in the apartments of many of the greatest Princes—Opthalmiater, Pontifical, Imperial, and Royal—to his late Majesty—to the Pontifical Court—to the Person of her Imperial Majesty—to the Kings of Poland, Denmark, Sweden,

JOANNES TAYLOR, MEDICUS,

In Optica expertissimus.

&c.—to the several Electors of the Holy Empire—to the Royal Infant Duke of Parma—to the Prince of Saxe-Gotha, Serenissima, brother to her Royal Highness the Princess Dowager of Wales—to the Prince Royal of Poland—to the late Prince of Orange—to the present Princes of Bavaria, Modena, Lorrain, Brunswick, Anspach, Bareith, Liege, Saltsbourg, Middlebourg, Hesse-Cassel, Holstein, Zerbst, Georgia, &c.—Citizen of Rome, by a public Act in the name of the Senate and People—Fellow of that College of Physicians—Professor in Optics—Doctor in Medicine and Doctor in Chirurgery, in several Universities abroad—who has been on his Travels upwards of thirty years with little or no interruption, during which, he has not only been several times in every town in these kingdoms, but in every kingdom, province, state, and city of the least consideration—in every court—presented to every crowned head and Sovereign Prince in all Europe; without exception, containing the greatest variety of the most entertaining and interesting adventures, that, it is presumed, has ever yet been published in any country, or in any language."

Notwithstanding this bombastic puff and quackery,

the work is nothing more than a farrago of nonsense, drawn up in the style of a novel, in which it appears he deserted his wife for eight years, and involved his son in 200*l.* expense by the perplexity of his affairs. By way of advertisement, the chevalier thus addresses his son:—"My Son, if you should unguardedly have suffered your name at the head of a work, which must make us all contemptible, this must be printed in it, as the best apology for yourself and father:—

"TO THE PRINTER.

"My dear and only son having respectfully represented to me that he has composed a work entitled *My Life and Adventures*, and requires my consent for its publication; notwithstanding, I am as yet a stranger to the composition, and, consequently, can be no judge of its merit; I am so well persuaded that my son is every way incapable of saying ought of his father but what must redound to his honor and reputation; and, so perfectly convinced of the goodness of his heart, that it does not seem possible I should err in my judgment, by giving my consent to the publication of the said work. And, as I have long been employed in writing my own Life and Adventures, which will,

with all expedition, be published, it will be hereafter left with all due attention to the candid reader, whether the life of the father written by the son, or the life of the father written by himself, best deserves approbation.

"The Chevalier Taylor, Ophthalmiator,
Pontifical, Imperial, and Royal.

"*Oxford, Jan.* 10, 1761."

"The above is a true copy of the letter my father sent me. All the answer I can make to the bills he sends about the town and country, is, that I have maintained my mother these eight years, and do at this present time; and that, two years since, I was concerned in his affairs, for which I have paid near 200*l.*, as witness my hand,

"JOHN TAYLOR, Oculist.

"*Hatton Garden, May* 25, 1761."

The Chevalier Taylor was son of an apothecary, residing at Norwich, where he was born. His father dying before he was six years old, he was left wholly to the care of his mother, a very careful, honest, and industrious woman, who continued the business of her husband, by which means she supported herself and three young children. At the age of nineteen

she sent the Chevalier to London, giving him thirty guineas to open his way into St. Thomas's Hospital, as a student in surgery, where he practised under the celebrated Cheselden, from whom he received the first rudiments of his art as an oculist.

Having arrived at the age of twenty-one, and tolerably well-skilled as a surgeon, he returned to Norwich; but was surprised and mortified to find the family-mansion, as he called it, mortgaged, by his mother, to defray the charges of his own brother's education.

He managed, however, to raise 200*l.* by the sale of the premises, and opened a fine shop in Norwich, supplied with drugs of all sorts, from London, with an apparatus for cutting for the stone, &c. &c. He had promised his mother a moiety of the 200*l.*, but fine furniture and other expenses swept away the whole; and before the doctor could open in form, he was attended with more creditors than patients. Cutting for the stone he soon laid down, as his first attempt in that way proved unsuccessful, though the process was allowed, by good judges, to be well pursued. Though he had at this time several pupils, who brought him in a round sum, yet his profuse way of living, in less

than six months, drove him into sanctuary, where he remained till his creditors could be prevailed on to sign a letter of license. He married a very agreeable woman, but without money; and, during his retirement, he got two wenches with child, while his wife was busy abroad conciliating his creditors. One of the girls was brought to bed about a fortnight before the other, and he found it no small difficulty to give security to the parish-officers. He persuaded the other, after her lying-in, being now upon the verge of a decampment, to put on boys' clothes, attend him as his page, and fly off with him to Holland; which she did. But an accident there discovered her sex, which obliged the doctor to send her packing home again, the laws in Holland being very severe against such masqueradings.

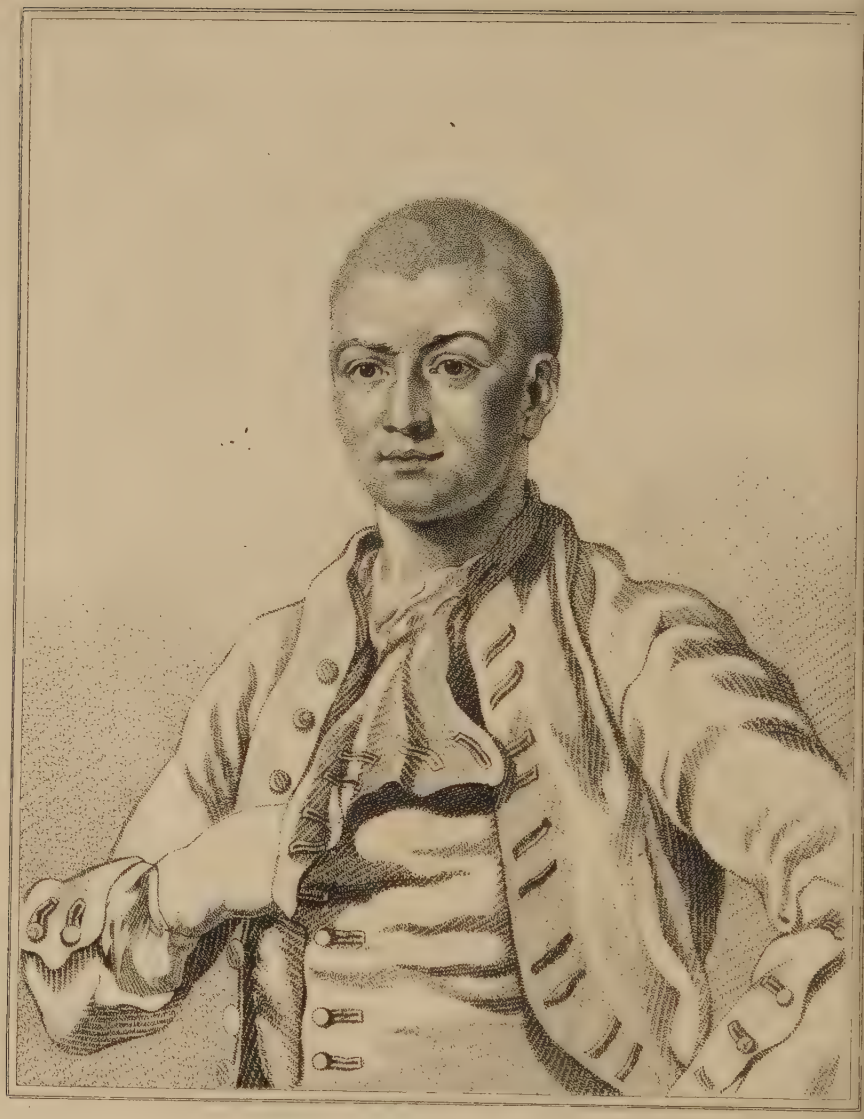
The life of the Chevalier Taylor abounds in lewd tales of his amorous intrigues; and is written in a vein of satire, rather exposing to censure the actions of his father, than placing them in a favorable light. The desertion of his mother, and the money he states to have expended on the chevalier's affairs, probably gave rise to family quarrels.

Noticing the birth of his father, he says, "Between the hours of eleven and one, on the sixteenth day of

August, one thousand seven hundred and three, did nature and the midwife give our matchless hero to the world; the sun and his mother being in labour at the same time, he travelling through an eclipse, and she in travail of the illustrious doctor, who, at one instant with the sun, began to break out from darkness, and, as the parish-records testify, came rushing into light with him."

The younger Taylor's life of the Chevalier, proves him rather to have been a mere mountebank than a skilful operator; and that, for the purpose of deception, he trained a man to act the part of a person blind; but at Oxford the collusion was discovered, when the doctor and his confederate were put to flight, with shame and disgrace.

The Chevalier Taylor died in 1772, aged sixty-nine.



GEORGE TAYLOR.

George Taylor,

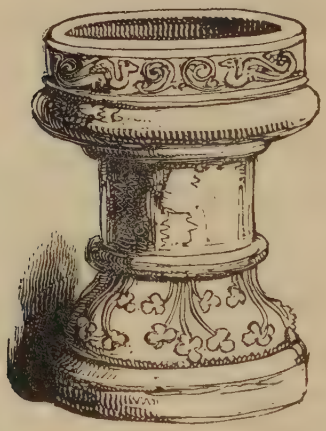
PUGILIST.

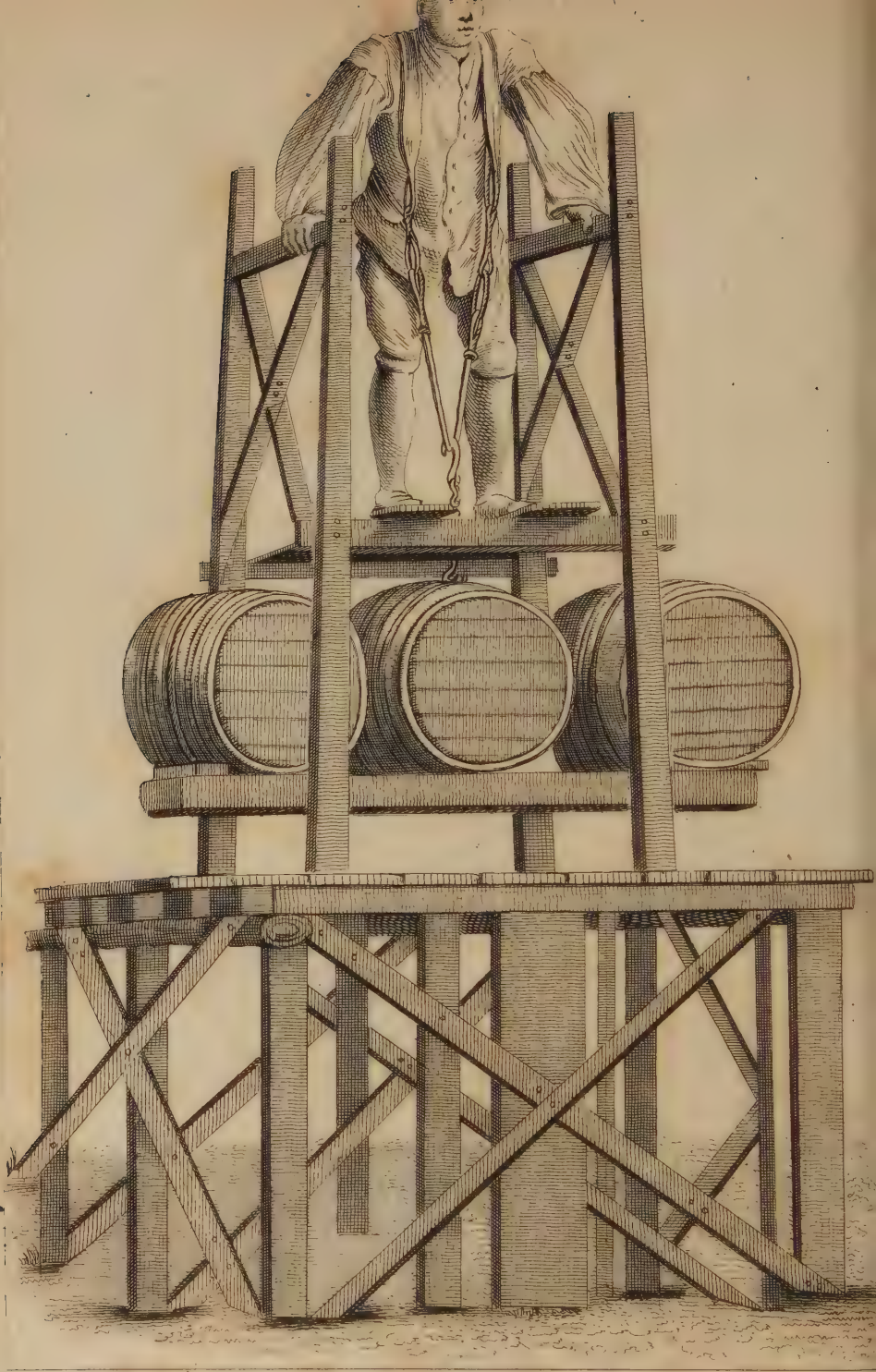
GEORGE TAYLOR, known by the name of *George the Barber*, sprang up surprisingly; he beat all the chief boxers of his time, except Broughton, whom he very injudiciously challenged before he had attempted one of less celebrity; the consequence was, he was obliged very soon to give in. It was certainly an ill-advised and wrong step in him to commence boxer by fighting the standing champion; for Taylor was not then twenty, and Broughton was in the zenith of his age and art. After this trial, in which he was signally defeated, he greatly distinguished himself with others; but never had the temerity to engage again with *Broughton*.

George Taylor was a strong able man, who, with a skill extraordinary, aided by his knowledge of the back-sword, and a remarkable judgment in the cross-buttock fall, was able to contest with most of his opponents. But Captain *John Godfrey*, in his

"Treatise on the Science of Defence," was of opinion, that he was not overstocked with that necessary ingredient of a boxer, called a *good bottom;* and suspected that blows, of equal strength with his own, too much affected and disconcerted him in many of his fights.

He, however, on most occasions, came off victorious; and Death, the great conqueror of all, closed his career on the 21st of February, 1750.





THOMAS TOPHAM,

Thomas Topham,

COMMONLY CALLED THE STRONG MAN.

THOMAS TOPHAM was born in London, about the year 1710. His father was a carpenter, and brought his son up to the same business, which he followed until he was about twenty-four years of age; when, having saved a little money, he took a public-house, the sign of the Red Lion, at the corner of the City-road, opposite St. Luke's Hospital. Here he might have done well, and have saved money; but his wife, from her coquettish behaviour, caused them to lead a very unhappy life; and he, in consequence, neglecting the business of his house, shortly failed.

He had often displayed amazing proofs of his strength; and necessity now prompted him to adopt some plan whereby he might turn this qualification to account; to which purpose he proposed to perform in public such feats as astonished every one who heard of the undertaking; doubting the thing as impossible to accomplish. His first public exhibition

was in Moorfields, where he opposed his own personal strength against that of a young and vigorous horse, which he accomplished, by placing his feet against the dwarf-wall, dividing Upper from the Lower Moorfields; nor could the whipping and urging the horse on, remove Topham from his position, but he completly kept the animal in restraint by his powerful hold. He afterwards pulled against two horses, but as his legs were placed horizontially, instead of rising parallel to the traces of the horse, he was jerked from his seat, and had one of his knees much bruised and hurt. By the strengh of his fingers he rolled up a very strong and large pewter dish; and broke seven or eight short pieces of a tobacco-pipe by the force of his middle finger, having laid them on his first and third. He thrust the bowl of a strong tobacco-pipe under his garters, and his legs being bent, he broke it to pieces by the tendons of his hams.—Another bowl of this kind he broke between his first and second finger, by pressing them together sideways.—He lifted a table six feet long, with half-a-hundred weight hanging at the end of it, holding it in an horizontal position, with his teeth, a considerable time.—These, and many other feats of strength, he exhibited at the price of one shilling admission for each person.

When at Derby, he applied to Alderman Cooper for permission to display the different feats he proposed. The alderman was surprised at his performance, and requested him to strip, that he might examine whether he was made like other men; when he discovered, that the usual cavities under the arms and hams of others were in him supplied with ligaments.

The injury he received from the two horses caused him to limp a little in his walk. He was a well-made man, but had nothing singular in his appearance.—The performances he exhibited at Derby, where the rolling up of a pewter-dish, of seven pounds weight, with as much apparent ease as a man rolls up a sheet of paper; holding a pewter quart-pot at arm's length, and squeezing the sides together like an egg-shell; lifting two hundred weight with his little finger, and moving it gently over his head: he also broke a rope fastened to the floor, that would have sustained twenty hundred weight. Holding in his teeth a piece of leather fixed to one end of an oak-table, which had half-a-hundred weight suspended to it, and with two of the feet resting upon his knees, he raised the end with the weight higher than the part he held near his mouth. Mr. Chambers, vicar of All Saints, in Derby, who weighed twenty-seven stone, he took and raised

with one hand, his head being laid on one chair, and his feet on another. Four persons, of fourteen stone each, sat upon Topham's body, and these he heaved at pleasure. At a blow he struck a round bar of iron, one inch in diameter, against his naked arm, and bent it like a bow. Knowing a little of music, he entertained the company at Derby with *Mad Tom;* he also sung a solo, accompanied on the organ in St. Werburgh's church; and though he performed it with judgment, yet his voice seemed infinitely more terrible than mellow, and, in some instances, scarcely human. The ostler at the Virgin-inn, where Topham lodged, having insulted him, he took one of the spits from the kitchen mantle-piece, bent it round his neck like a handkerchief, and left the ends sticking out; the man appeared so awkward in his iron cravat, as to excite the mirth and laughter of all who saw the incumbrance he laboured under; nor could he extricate himself until Topham condescended to relieve him. But these were only the common-place performances, when he went about purposely to exhibit; by way of frolic he would accomplish more surprising feats.—One night, observing a watchman fast asleep in his box, in Chiswell-street, he took both, and carrying the load with the greatest ease, dropped the watch-

man, box and all, over the wall of Tindall's burying-ground, leaving the man to extricate himself as well as he could. Sitting once at the window of a public-house, in the same street, a butcher going by from a slaughter-house, with nearly half an ox upon his back, Topham relieved him of his load, with so much ease and dexterity, that the fellow astonished, swore nothing but the devil could have flown away with the beef. Observing some bricklayers removing part of a scaffold, previous to striking it, from a small building, he, towards assisting them, grasped hold of one of the poles so rudely, that a part of the front wall followed his Herculean tug: the fellows conceiving it had been the effects of an earthquake, ran without looking behind them into an adjoining field. Mr. Topham's joke had nearly proved of serious consequence, for one of the poles in falling hurt him severely on his side.

Accompanying an acquaintance of his on-board a West Indiaman, in the river, and being presented with a cocoa-nut, he astonished one of the sailors by cracking it close to his ear, with the same ease as we crack an egg-shell. A race taking place on the Hackney-road, a fellow, with a horse and cart, annoyed the spectators much, by attempting to keep close to the contending parties; Topham, who was

present, stepped into the road, seized the tail of the cart, and, in spite of all the fellow's exertions, in whipping his horse to get forward, drew them both back, with the greatest ease possible, to the mortification of the man, who would have resented the indignity, but was naturally dismayed. At the time he kept a public-house, two fellows, extremely quarrelsome, could not be appeased without fighting the landlord. Topham, to satisfy their desire, seized them both by the nape of the neck, and knocked their heads together, till they were perfectly sensible of their error, and very humbly begged his pardon.

But the greatest of all his exploits was performed in Bath-street, Cold-bath-fields, on the 28th of May, 1741, when, in honor of Admiral Vernon's taking of Porto-Bello, he lifted three hogsheads of water, weighing 1,836 pounds, in the presence of some thousands of persons.

The levity of his wife, and her illicit attachment to another person, were the source of much uneasiness to him; and, unfortunately, becoming the slave to jealous passions, in a fit of frenzy, after beating her very severely, he put a period to his own existence, in the very flower of his age, not having completed his thirty-third year.

The impression he left on the minds of the people in London was such, that his portrait, displaying some one or other of his feats, was painted on various signs throughout the metropolis; there were many remaining, even up to the year 1800; one in particular, over a public-house near the May-pole, in East Smithfield, representing him in the act of pulling against two dray-horses.

Jean De-la-Tour.

THIS Frenchman was master of a smuggling-vessel, that conveyed to the different shores of England contraband and exciseable articles; which, from the heavy customs imposed on them, rendered it a most profitable trade to those who could, with impunity, import them free of duty. In one of these illicit trips, from Boulogne to the coast of Kent, while his vessel was hovering near Margate, for the purpose of landing his commodities as secret as possible, it was observed by some pilots, and mistaken for a ship in distress. To this end, and with a view of rendering any assistance that might be wanting, several of these pilots took a boat, and made towards the vessel. De-la-Tour, conceiving them to be officers of the customs, without any warning whatever, fired several shots into the boat, which killed one man, and desperately wounded two others; and then, without attempting to make a landing, stood out to sea.

On the boat's return to the land, with the dead body and wounded men, the survivors reported the

JEAN DE LA TOUR,

(Tried for Piracy.)

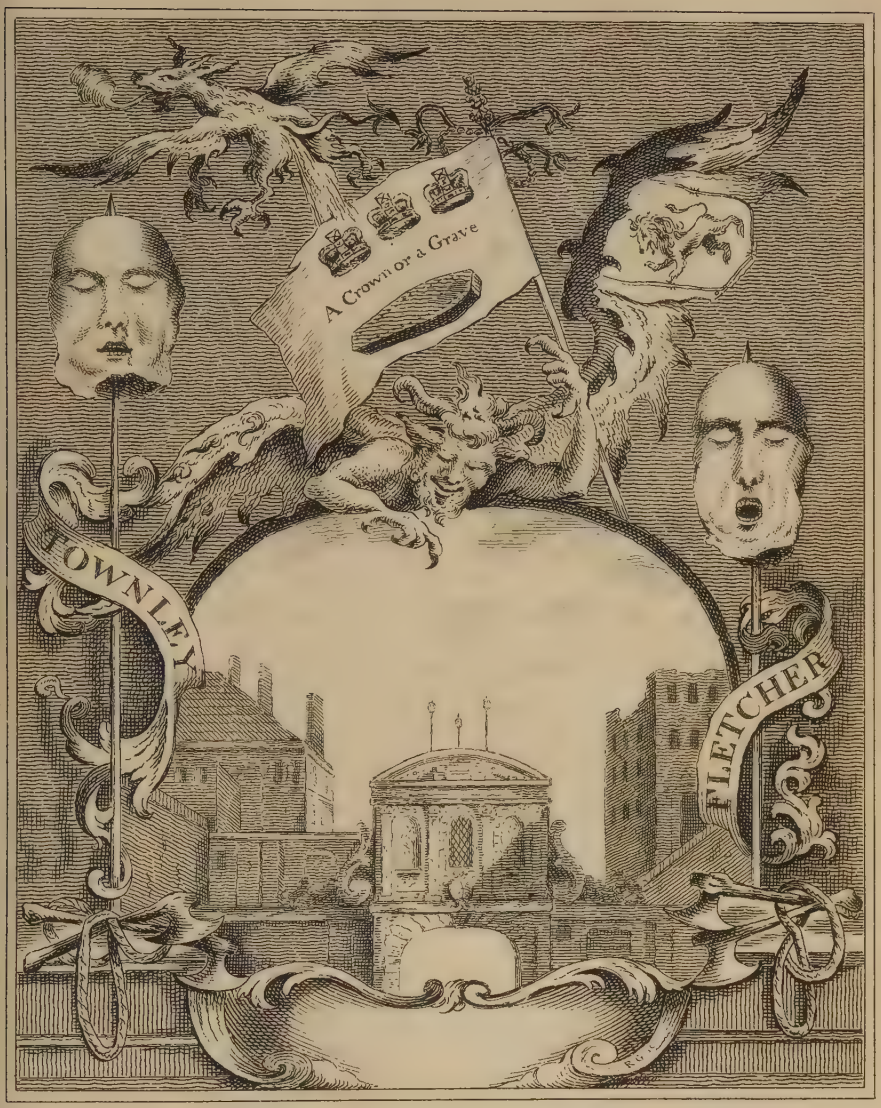
transaction, and described the ship in the best way they could; but, notwithstanding an armed vessel was immediately dispatched in pursuit of this supposed pirate, De-la-Tour contrived to elude the vigilance of his pursuers for a considerable length of time. The circumstance becoming widely known, every one was made acquainted with the description of the ship; and De-la-Tour still carrying on his nefarious traffic, though he had changed the scene of his former trade, was taken, about four months after, by an English vessel, and brought to England, in order to undergo his trial for the murder. The identity of his person being ascertained by some of the men who were in the boat at the time of the outrage, he was upon their evidence found guilty, and hanged in the year 1744.

Townley and Fletcher.

THESE persons are associated together, on account of their being tried, condemned, and of suffering at the same time. Mr. Townley was descended from an ancient and honorable family, of some centuries residence in Lancashire, and was the son of Richard Townley, of Townley-hall, in that county, who was tried for the share he had in the rebellion of 1715, but acquitted.

Young Mr. Townley being educated in the rigid principles of popery,* went abroad early in life, and, entering into the service of France, distinguished himself in his military capacity, particularly at the siege of Philipsbourg. Coming to England, in 1742,

* The Townley family have suffered great persecution on the account of religion; in the early part of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, one of their ancestors, living at Townley-hall, was compelled, for a considerable time, to pay a heavy monthly fine, to escape imprisonment as a recusant, and for having suffered the celebration of mass in his house, before his children and domestics.


A Crown or a Grave
TOWNLEY
FLETCHER

he associated chiefly with those of the catholic religion; and it was thought that he induced many of them to take an active part in the rebellion. When the Pretender came to Manchester, Townley offered his services; when, being accepted, he was commissioned to raise a regiment, which he soon completed; and, from his knowledge of military tactics, might have done the royal cause much mischief, but being made a prisoner at Carlisle, he was conducted to London, in order to take his trial for high-treason.

An act of parliament having passed in the year 1746, "to empower the king to remove the cause of action against persons apprehended for high-treason, out of the county where the crime was committed;" his majesty granted to the judges commissions to try, in the counties of Cumberland, York, and Surrey, such rebels as had been committed to the prisons of those counties respectively.

On the 23d of June, 1746, at the Sessions held at St. Margaret's Hill, for the trials of the rebels, Colonel FRANCIS TOWNLEY, of the Manchester regiment, was indicted for the part he had acted in the rebellion. His counsel insisted that he was not a subject of Great Britain, being an officer in the service of the French king; but this, the judges observed, was a cir-

cumstance against him, as he had quitted his native country, and engaged in the French service, without the consent of his lawful sovereign. Some other motions, equally frivolous, being over-ruled, he was capitally convicted, and adjudged to die. After conviction, he behaved in the most reserved manner, scarcely speaking to any one but his brethren in misfortune.

George Fletcher had been a linen-draper, at Stratford, near Manchester, managing the business for his mother, who, on her knees, endeavoured to persuade him not to engage with the rebels; and offered him 1000*l.* on the condition that he would not embark in so desperate an enterprize; but he was deaf to her entreaties, and so ambitious of serving the Pretender, that he gave his secretary, Mr. Murray, fifty pounds for a captain's commission. Fletcher having induced a man named Maddox to enlist, he afterwards would have deserted; but Fletcher produced a handful of gold, and said he should not want money if he would fight for the Pretender, which induced Maddox to keep his station.

There were six others tried with Townley and Fletcher, at the Surrey Sessions, and after the sentence of the law was passed, they all declared that they had

acted according to the dictates of their consciences, and would again act the same parts, if they were put to the trial. When the keeper informed them, that the following day was ordered for their execution, they expressed a resignation to the will of God; embraced each other, and took an affectionate leave of their friends.

On the following morning they breakfasted together, and having conversed till near eleven o'clock, were conveyed on three sledges from the New Goal, Southwark, to Kennington-common. The gibbet was surrounded by a party of the guards, and a block and a pile of faggots were placed near it. The faggots were set on fire while the proper officers were removing the malefactors from the sledges.

After near an hour employed in acts of devotion, these unhappy men, having delivered to the sheriffs some papers, expressive of their political sentiments, then underwent the sentence of the law. They had not hung above five minutes, when Colonel Townley, yet alive, was cut down, and being placed on the block, the executioner, with an axe, separated his head from the body; his heart and bowels were then taken out, and thrown into the fire; and the other

parties being severally treated in the same manner, the executioner cried out "God save King George."

The bodies were quartered, and delivered to the keeper of the New Goal, who buried them: the heads of some were sent to Carlisle and Manchester, where they were exposed; but those of Townley and Fletcher were fixed on Temple-Bar, where they remained until within these few years, when they fell down.

Among the rest that suffered with Townley and Fletcher, on Kennington-common, July 20, 1746, was young Dawson, so pathetically recorded by Shenstone. The print of the exposure of these persons' heads is extremely scarce; the one copied in this work is in the collection of J. Goodford, Esq. of Yeovil, Somersetshire.

JAMES TURNER,

(a Beggar aged 93.)

James Turner.

JAMES TURNER, a common beggar, whose silvered locks and flowing beard gave him a patriarchal appearance, raised a considerable sum of money by the veneration generally directed towards aged people in distress. Turner, though an old man, was so well experienced in his profession, that he deemed it no trifling advantage to appear still older than he really was. To form some estimate of how much money this man obtained daily, it is necessary to state that Sir Joshua Reynolds, Mr. Nathaniel Hone, and many other celebrated painters, struck with the singularly reverend character of his aspect, wished to make studies from his head, and solicited him to sit to them. He, however, would not consent, unless paid at the rate of one shilling per hour, which he asserted he always got by his profession of begging. Sir Joshua has often introduced the portrait of Turner into his pictures, particularly in that of Count Uglioni, and his children, starved to death.

Hone, likewise, made Turner the prominent feature in his picture of the Conjuror;* and painted his portrait as he generally appeared, in the year 1751, which was engraved by Captain Baillie, in the year 1762.

One White, a paviour, getting far advanced in years, suffered his beard to grow to an immense size, and became the successor to Turner, in the service of portrait and historical painters. The Rev. Mr. Peters has introduced White's likeness in his picture of the Resurrection of a Pious Family. And Alefounder, the miniature-painter, has palmed on the public White's portrait for that of Peter the

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*Some difference existing between Sir Joshua Reynolds and Mr. Hone, the latter, in revenge, painted the figure of an old man, with a magic wand, conjuring from the flames various designs from old masters, which Sir Joshua had taken for models of some of his best pictures; and had afterwards destroyed the originals. On the death of Mr. Hone, in 1784, the whole of his collection of paintings, prints, and drawings, were sold by auction, at Hutchins' rooms, in King-street, Covent-garden, when the picture of the Conjuror was purchased for sixty guineas, by an agent of Sir Joshua's, and consigned to the same destructive element that had consumed the old masters.

Wild-boy, which is engraved as such by Bartolozzi, though there are not less than three original resemblances of that singular person, preserved by Falconet, Kent, and Drost.

Richard Turpin.

RICHARD TURPIN was the son of John Turpin, a farmer, at Hempstead, in Essex, and having received a common school-education, was apprenticed to a butcher in Whitechapel. His early youth was distinguished by the impropriety of his behaviour and the brutality of his manners; and, on the expiration of his apprenticeship, he married a young woman of East Ham, in Essex, named Palmer; but he had not long been married before he took to the practice of stealing his neighbours' cattle, which he used to kill and cut up for sale.

Having stolen two oxen belonging to Mr. Giles, of Plaistow, he drove them to his own house; two of Giles's servants suspecting the robber, went to Turpin's, where they saw two beasts in size agreeing with those that had been lost. They could not identify their property, as the hides were stripped off; but, understanding that Turpin was accustomed to dispose of his booty at Waltham-Abbey, they went thither, and saw the hides of the stolen cattle. No doubt

RICHARD TURPIN,

(Executed at York, 1739.)

now remained of Turpin being the robber, and a warrant was accordingly procured for his apprehension; but he, learning that the peace-officers were in search of him, made his escape from the back-window of his house, at the very moment they were entering at the door. He retreated to a place of security, and found means to inform his wife where he was concealed; on which she furnished him with money, when he travelled into Essex, and connected himself with a gang of smugglers. For some time he was successful, but, by the vigilance of the excise-officers, he was ultimately deprived of all his ill-acquired gains.

Thrown out of this kind of business, he joined a gang of deer-stealers, whose depredations were principally committed on Epping-forest, and the parks in its neighbourhood; but this not succeeding to the expectation of the robbers, they determined, as a more profitable pursuit, to commence house-breakers. Their plan was to fix on houses that they presumed contained valuable property: and, while one of them knocked at the door, the others were to rush in, and seize whatever they might deem worthy of their notice. The first attack of this kind was at the house of Mr. Strype, an old man, who kept a

chandler's shop at Watford, whom they robbed of all the money in his possession, without offering him any personal abuse. Turpin now acquainted his associates that there was an old woman at Loughton, who was in possession of seven or eight hundred pounds; whereupon they agreed to rob her. On coming to the door, one of them knocked, and the rest forcing their way into the house, tied handkerchiefs over the eyes of the old woman and her maid. Turpin then demanded what money was in the house; and the owner hesitating to tell him, he threatened to set her on the fire if she did not make an immediate discovery. Still, however, she declined to give the desired information, when the villains actually placed her on the fire, where she sat till the tormenting pain compelled her to discover her hidden treasure; and they, taking possession of above 400*l.*, made their escape.

Some little time after this, they agreed to rob the house of a farmer, near Barking; and, knocking at the door, the people declined to open it; on which they broke it open, and, having bound the farmer, his wife, his son-in-law, and the servant-maid, they robbed the house of above 700*l.* Turpin was so much delighted, that he exclaimed, "Aye, this will do, if it would always be so;" and the robbers retired

with their prize, which amounted to above eighty pounds for each of them. This desperate gang, now flushed with success, determined to attack the house of Mr. Mason, the keeper of Epping-forest; and the time was fixed when the plan was to be carried into execution; but Turpin having gone to London, to spend his share of the former booty, intoxicated himself to such a degree, that he totally forgot the appointment. Nevertheless, the rest of the gang resolved that the absence of their companion should not frustrate the proposed design; and, having taken a solemn oath to break every article of furniture in Mason's house, they set out on their expedition. On gaining admission, they discovered an old man sitting by the fire-side, whom they suffered to remain unmolested; but Mr. Mason they kicked and treated in a very severe manner. His daughter escaped their notice and fury, by running out of the house, and taking shelter in a hog-stye. After ransacking the lower part of the house, and doing great mischief, they went up-stairs, where they broke every thing that fell in their way, and, among the rest, a china punch-bowl, from which dropped one hundred and twenty guineas; this they made a prey of, and effected their escape. They now went to London in

search of Turpin, with whom they shared the booty, though he had not taken an active part in the execution of the villany.

On the 11th of January, 1735, Turpin and five of his companions went to the house of Mr. Saunders, a rich farmer at Charlton, in Kent, between seven and eight in the evening, and having knocked at the door, asked if Mr. Saunders was at home. Being answered in the affirmative, they rushed into the house, and found Mr. Saunders, with his wife and friends, playing at cards in the parlour. They told the company that they should remain uninjured if they made no disturbance. Having made prize of a silver snuff-box, which lay on the table, a part of the gang stood guard over the rest of the company, while the others attended Mr. Saunders through the house, and, breaking open his escritoirs and closets, stole above a 100*l.* exclusive of plate. During these transactions, the servant-maid ran up-stairs, barred the door of her room, and called out "Thieves," with a view of alarming the neighbourhood; but the robbers broke open the door of her room, secured her, and then robbed the house of all the valuable property they had not before taken. Finding some mince-pies, and bottles of wine, they sat down to

regale themselves; and, meeting with a bottle of brandy, they compelled each of the company to drink a glass of it. Mrs. Saunders fainting through terror, they administered some drops in water to her, and recovered her to the use of her senses. Having staid in the house a considerable time, they packed up their booty, and departed, first declaring that if any of the family gave the least alarm within two hours, or advertised the marks on the stolen plate, they would return at a future period and murder them. Retiring to a public-house at Woolwich, where they had concerted the robbery, they crossed the Thames to an empty house in Ratcliffe Highway, and deposited the stolen effects till they found a purchaser to take them off their hands.

On the 18th of the same month, they went to the house of Mr. Sheldon, near Croydon, in Surrey, where they arrived about seven in the evening. They found the coachman in the stable, attending his horses, and, after having secured him, they quitted the stable, and meeting Mr. Sheldon in the yard, they compelled him to conduct them into the house, where they stole eleven guineas, with the jewels, plate, and other things of value, to a consider-

able amount. They then returned Mr. Sheldon two guineas, and apologized for their conduct.

The next robbery they committed was upon the house of Mr. Lawrence, of Edgware, near Stanmore, in Middlesex, for which place they set out on the 4th of February, and arrived at a public-house in that village about five o'clock in the evening. From this place they went to Mr. Lawrence's, where they arrived about seven o'clock, just as he had discharged some people who had worked for him. Having quitted their horses at the outer gate, one of the robbers going forward found a boy, who had just returned from folding his sheep: the rest of the gang following, a pistol was presented, and instant destruction threatened if he made any noise. They then took off his garters, tied his hands, and desired him to direct them to the door, and when they knocked to answer and bid the servant open it, in which case they would not hurt him. But, when the boy came to the door, he was so terrified that he could not speak; on which, one of the gang knocked, and a man-servant opening the door, imagining it was one of the neighbours, they all rushed in, armed with pistols. Having seized Mr. Lawrence and his servant, they threw a

cloth over their faces, and taking the boy into another room, demanded what fire-arms were in the house; he replied, only an old gun, which they discovered and broke in pieces. They then bound Mr. Lawrence and his man, and made them sit by the boy; and Turpin searching the gentleman, took from him a guinea, a Portugal piece, and some silver; but, not being satisfied with this booty, they forced him to conduct them up-stairs, where they broke open a closet, and stole some money and plate. This was not sufficient to satisfy them, and they threatened to murder Mr. Lawrence, each of them destining him to a different death, as the savageness of his own nature prompted him. At length one of them took a kettle of water from the fire, and threw it over him: but it providentially happened not to be hot enough to scald him.

In the interim the maid-servant, who was churning butter in the dairy, hearing a noise in the house, apprehended some mischief; on which she blew out the candle, to screen herself; but being found in the course of their search, one of the miscreants compelled her to go up-stairs, where he gratified his brutal passion by force. They then robbed the house of all the valuable effects they could find, locked the

family into the parlour, threw the key into the garden, and took their plunder to London.

The particulars of this atrocious robbery being represented to the king, a proclamation was issued for the apprehension of the offenders, promising a pardon to any one of them who would impeach his accomplices, and a reward of fifty pounds was offered, to be paid on conviction. This, however, had no effect; the robbers continued their depredations as before; and, flushed with the success they had met with, seemed to bid defiance to the laws.

On the 7th of February, six of them assembled at the White-bear Inn, in Drury-lane, where they agreed to rob the house of Mr. Francis, a farmer, near Mary-le-bone. Arriving at the place, they found a servant in the cow-house, whom they bound fast, and threatened to murder him if he was not perfectly silent. This being done, they led him into the stable, where finding another of the servants, they bound him in the same manner. In the interim Mr. Francis happening to come home, they presented their pistols to his breast, and threatened instant destruction to him, if he made the least noise or opposition. Having bound the master in the stable with his servants, they rushed into the house, tied Mrs. Fran-

cis, her daughter, and the maid-servant, and beat them in a most cruel manner. One of the thieves stood as a sentry, while the rest rifled the house, in which they found a silver tankard, a medal of Charles the First, a gold watch, several gold rings, a considerable sum of money, and a variety of valuable linen, and other effects, which they conveyed to London.

Hereupon a reward of 100*l.* was offered for the apprehension of the offenders; in consequence of which, two of them were taken into custody, tried and convicted on the evidence of an accomplice, and hanged in chains; and, the whole gang being dispersed, Turpin went into the country to renew his depredations on the public.

On a journey towards Cambridge, he met a man genteelly dressed, and well mounted; and expecting a good booty, he presented a pistol and demanded his money. The person he stopped happened to be King, a celebrated highwayman, who knew Turpin; and, when the latter threatened instant death, if he did not deliver his money, King burst into a fit of laughter, and said, "What! dog eat dog?—come, come, brother Turpin; if you don't know me, I know you, and shall be glad of your company."

These brethren in iniquity soon struck a bargain, and immediately entering on business, committed a number of robberies; till at length they were so well known, that no public-house would receive them as guests. Thus situated, they fixed on a spot between the King's-oak and the Loughton-road, on Epping Forest, where they made a cave, which was large enough to receive them and their horses. This cave was inclosed within a sort of thicket of bushes and brambles, through which they could look, and see passengers on the road, while themselves remained unobserved. From this station they used to issue, and robbed such a number of persons, that at length the very pedlars, who travelled the road, carried fire-arms for their defence: and, while they were in this retreat, Turpin's wife used to supply them with necessaries, and frequently remained in the cave during the night.

Having taken a ride as far as Bungay, in Suffolk, they observed two young women receive fourteen pounds for corn; on which, Turpin resolved to rob them of the money. King objected, saying, it was a pity to rob such pretty girls; but Turpin was obstinate, and obtained the booty. Upon their return

home, on the following day, they stopped a Mr. Bradele, of London, who was riding in his chariot with his children. The gentleman seeing only one robber, was preparing to make resistance, when King called to Turpin to hold the horses. They took from this gentleman his watch, money, and an old mourning ring; but returned the latter, as he declared that its intrinsic value was trifling, yet he was very unwilling to part with it. Finding that they readily parted with the ring, he asked them what he must give for the watch: on which King said to Turpin, "What say ye, Jack?" a name by which he always called him, "here seems to be a good honest fellow; shall we let him have the watch?" Turpin replied, "Do as you please:" on which, King said to the gentleman, "You must pay six guineas for it: we never sell for more, though the watch should be worth six and thirty." The gentleman received the watch back, and promised that the money should be left at the Dial, in Birchin-lane, where they might receive it, and no questions would be asked.

Not long after this, Turpin was guilty of murder, which arose from the following circumstance: a reward of 100*l.* having been offered for apprehending him, the servant of a gentleman, named

Thompson, went out with a higgler, to try if they could take this notorious offender. Turpin seeing them approach near his dwelling, Mr. Thompson's man having a gun, he mistook them for poachers; on which he said, there were no hares near that thicket: "No," said Thompson's servant, "but I have found a Turpin;" and presenting his gun, required him to surrender. Hereupon Turpin spoke to him in a friendly manner, and gradually retreated at the same time, till having seized his own gun, he shot him dead on the spot, and the higgler ran off with the utmost precipitation.

This transaction making a great noise in the neighbourhood, Turpin went further into the country, in search of his old companion King; and, in the mean time, sent a letter to his wife, to meet him at a public-house at Hertford. The woman attended according to this direction; and her husband coming into the house soon after she arrived, a butcher, to whom he owed five pounds, happened to see him; on which he said, "Come, Dick, I know you have money now; and if you will pay me, it will be of great service."

Turpin told him that his wife was in the next room; that she had money, and that he should be paid immediately: but while the butcher was hinting

to some of his acquaintance, that the person present was Turpin, and that they might take him into custody after he had received his debt, the highwayman made his escape through a window, and rode off with the greatest expedition.

Turpin having found King, and a man named Potter, who had lately connected himself with them, they set off towards London in the dusk of the evening; but, when they came near the Green Man, on Epping-forest, they overtook a Mr. Major, who riding on a very fine horse, and Turpin's being very much jaded, he obliged the rider to dismount, and exchanged horses. The robbers now pursued their journey towards London, and Mr. Major going to the Green Man, gave an account of the affair; on which it was conjectured that Turpin had been the robber, and that the horse which he had exchanged must have been stolen. It was on a Saturday evening that this robbery was committed; but Mr. Major being advised to print hand-bills immediately, notice was given to the landlord of the Green Man, that such a horse as Mr. Major had lost had been left at the Red Lion, in Whitechapel. The landlord going there, determined to wait till some person came for it; and, about eleven at night, King's brother came to pay for

the horse, and to take him away; on which he was immediately seized, and conducted into the house. Being asked what right he had to the horse, he said he had bought it; but the landlord examining a whip which he had in his hand, found a button at the end of the handle, half broken off, and the name of Major on the remaining half. Hereupon he was given into custody of a constable; but as it was not supposed he was the actual robber, he was told he should have his liberty, if he would discover his employer; whereupon he said that a stout man, in a white coat, was waiting for the horse in Red-lion-street. The company going there, saw King, who drew a pistol, and attempted to fire it, but it flashed in the pan; he then endeavoured to pull out another pistol, but could not, as it got entangled in his pocket. At this time, Turpin was watching at a short distance; and riding towards the spot, King cried out, "Shoot him, or we are taken:" on which Turpin fired, and shot his companion, who called out, "Dick, you have killed me," which the other hearing, rode off at full speed. King lived a week after this affair, and gave information that Turpin might be found at a house near Hackney-marsh; and, on inquiry, it was discovered that Turpin had been there on the night that he rode off, lamenting

that he had killed King, who was the most faithful associate he ever had in his life.

For a considerable time did Turpin skulk about the forest, having been deprived of his retreat in the cave, since he shot the servant of Mr. Thompson. On the examination of this cave, there were found two shirts, two pair of stockings, a piece of ham, and part of a bottle of wine. Some vain attempts were made to take this notorious offender into custody; and, among the rest, the huntsman of a gentleman in the neighbourhood went in search of him with bloodhounds. Turpin perceiving them, got into a tree, under which the hounds passed, to his inexpressible terror, so that he determined to make a retreat into Yorkshire. Going first to Long Sutton, in Lincolnshire, he stole some horses, for which he was taken into custody; but he escaped from the constable, as he was conducting him before a magistrate, and hastened to Welton, in Yorkshire, where he went by the name of John Palmer, and assumed the character of a gentleman. He now frequently went into Lincolnshire, to steal horses, and either sold or exchanged them in Yorkshire. He often accompanied the neighbouring gentlemen on their parties of hunting and shooting; and one evening, on a return from an expedition of

the latter kind, he wantonly shot a cock belonging to his landlord. On this, Mr. Hall, a neighbour, said, "You have done wrong in shooting your landlord's cock," to which, Turpin replied, that if he would stay while he loaded his gun, he would shoot him also. Irritated by this insult, Mr. Hall informed the landlord of what had passed, and application being made to some magistrates, a warrant was granted for the apprehension of the offender; who being taken into custody, and carried before a bench of justices, then assembled at the quarter-sessions at Beverley, they demanded security for his good behaviour, which he being unable or unwilling to give, was committed to Bridewell.

On inquiry, it appeared that he made frequent journeys into Lincolnshire, and on his return he always abounded in money, and was likewise in possession of several horses; so that it was conjectured he was a horse-stealer and highwayman. The magistrates, in consequence, went to him on the following day, and demanded whom he was, where he had lived, and his employment. He replied in substance, "That about two years ago he had lived at Long Sutton, in Lincolnshire, and was by trade a butcher; but that having contracted several debts for sheep that

proved rotten, he was obliged to abscond." The magistrates not being satisfied with this tale, commissioned the clerk of the peace to write into Lincolnshire, and make the necessary inquiries respecting the supposed John Palmer. The letter was carried by a special messenger, who brought an answer from a magistrate in the neighbourhood, importing that John Palmer was well known, though he had never carried on trade there: that he had been accused of sheep-stealing, for which he had been in custody, but had made his escape from the peace-officers; and that there were several informations lodged against him for horse-stealing. Hereupon the magistrates thought it prudent to remove him to York-castle, where he had not been more than a month, when two persons from Lincolnshire came and claimed a mare and foal, and likewise a horse, which he had stolen in that county. After he had been about four months in prison, he wrote the following letter to his brother in Essex:—

"Dear Brother, York, Feb. 6, 1739.

"I am sorry to acquaint you that I am now under "confinement in York-castle, for horse-stealing. If "I could procure an evidence from London to give

" me a character, that would go a great way towards " my being acquitted. I had not been long in this " country before my being apprehended, so that it " would pass off the readier. For heaven's sake, my " dear brother, do not neglect me; you will know " what I mean, when I say

" I am, your's,

" JOHN PALMER."

The brother refusing to pay the postage of the letter, returned it to the post-office; and Mr. Smith, a schoolmaster, who had taught Turpin to write, accidentally seeing it, immediately recognised his hand, on which he carried the letter to a magistrate, who breaking it open discovered that the supposed John Palmer was no less than the real Richard Turpin. Hereupon the magistrates of Essex dispatched Mr. Smith to York, who immediately selected Turpin from all the other prisoners in the castle; and, with another gentleman, afterwards proved his identity on his trial. The rumour that Turpin was a prisoner in York-castle, was no sooner circulated than persons flocked from all parts of the country to take a view of the noted highwayman, and debates ran very high, whether he was the real person or not.

Among others who visited him was a young fellow who pretended to know the famous Turpin, and having regarded him a considerable time, with looks of great attention, he told the keeper he would bet him half-a-guinea that he was not Turpin; on which the prisoner, whispering the keeper, said, "Lay him the wager, and I'll go your halves."

When this notorious malefactor was brought to trial, he was convicted on two indictments, and received sentence of death. After conviction, he wrote to his father, imploring him to intercede with a gentleman and lady of rank, to make interest that his sentence might be remitted; and that he might be transported. The father did what was in his power; but the notoriety of his character was such that no persons would exert themselves in his favor. He lived in the most gay and thoughtless manner after conviction, regardless of all consideration of futurity, and affecting to make a jest of the dreadful fate that awaited him. Not many days before his execution, he purchased a new fustian frock and a pair of pumps, in order to wear them at the time of his death; and on the day before, he hired five poor men, at ten shillings each, to follow the cart as mourners. He gave hat-bands and gloves to several other persons; and left a

ring, and some other articles, to a married woman in Lincolnshire, with whom he had been acquainted.

On the morning of his death he was put into a cart, and drawn to the place of execution, followed by his mourners as above-mentioned; in his way he bowed to the spectators with the most astonishing indifference and intrepidity. Arriving at the fatal tree, he ascended the ladder; when his leg trembling, he stamped it down with an air of assumed courage, as if he were ashamed of discovering the least signs of fear. Having conversed with the executioner about half-an-hour, he threw himself off the ladder, and expired in a few minutes.

The spectators of the execution seemed to be much affected at the fate of this man, who was distinguished by the comeliness of his appearance. The corpse was brought to the Blue Boar, in Castle-gate, York, where it remained till the next morning, and then interred in the church-yard of St. George's parish, with an inscription on the coffin, bearing his age, and the initials of his name. The grave was made remarkably deep, and the people who acted as mourners took such measures as they thought would secure the body: yet, about three o'clock on the following morning, some persons were observed in the church-yard, who

carried it off; and the populace, having an intimation whither it was conveyed, found it in a garden belonging to one of the surgeons of the city. Having recovered the coffin with the body, they laid it on a board, and, after carrying it through the street, in a triumphant manner, filled it with unslacked lime, and buried it in the grave where it had been before deposited.

Turpin suffered at York, on the 10th of April, 1739.

William Walker.

We are frequently furnished, in the monthly obituaries, with instances of persons who have lived to very extraordinary ages; and the various country, as well as London, newspapers are carefully consulted, for the purpose of perpetuating, through the medium of the Annual Registers and Monthly Magazines, the name and character of such as have arrived to the age of one hundred years, and upwards. William Walker, born in the year 1613, in a village near Ribchester, Lancashire, claims particular attention, from the circumstance of the many singular transactions he must have witnessed in the course of his very long life; together with the diversity of scene he experienced in the turbulent times in which he lived, and the different governments he saw constantly rise about him. He saw the vicissitudes of royalty, and of government, in the coronation and execution of Charles I.; the rise and decline of the Protectorate,

WILLIAM WALKER.

under Oliver and Richard Cromwell; the exile and restoration of Charles II.; the succession and abdication of James II.; the revolution; the end of the Stuart line in Queens Mary and Anne; with the settlement of the crown of England in the House of Brunswick; and the coronation of two of its sovereigns. On the breaking out of the civil war, he joined the royal standard, and greatly distinguished himself in the service; he performed at the memorable battle of Edge-hill, where he was wounded in the arm, and had two horses shot under him. From his portrait, painted in his one hundred and twenty-third year, he exhibits every appearance of health, and the vigour of matured good old age; without the debility that generally characterizes even the advanced period of one hundred; for though we have instances of persons who exceeded Walker in longevity, it is recorded of Old Parr, that he was blind for many years previous to the deceit he practised on the son of his landlord, for the renewal of his lease, including, with his own, the interest of his wife, in the succession for her life.

Carew, in his survey of Cornwall, assures us, upon his own knowledge, that fourscore and ten years of

age is ordinary there in every place, and in most accompanied with an able use of the body and senses. One Polezew, he says, lately living, reached to one hundred and thirty; a kinsman of his to one hundred and twelve. One Beauchamp, to one hundred and six; and in the parish where he dwelt, he professes to have remembered the decease of four within fourteen weeks space, whose years added together, made up the number of three hundred and forty. The same Gentleman made this epitaph upon Brawne, an Irishman, but a Cornish beggar:—

Here Brawn the quondam beggar lies,
  Who counted by his tale
Some sixscore winters, and above,
  Such virtue is in ale.
Ale was his meat, his drink, his cloth,
  Ale did his death deprive:
And could he still have drunk his ale,
  He had been still alive.

Whatever may have been William Walker's mode of living, it evidently appears to have had the effect of conducing to health; and the patriarchal appearance of his hair, and flowing beard, must have excited in every person who saw him a feeling of

veneration and respect. He died in 1736, aged one hundred and twenty-three years, witnessing eight reigns, exclusive of the protectorate of the Cromwell's; from James the First to King George the Second.

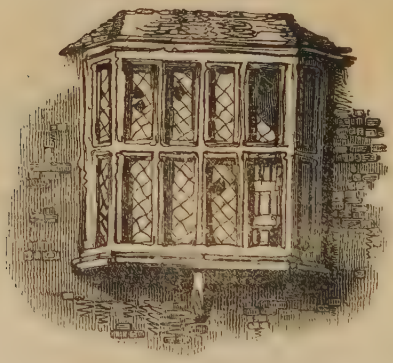
Dr. Joshua Ward.

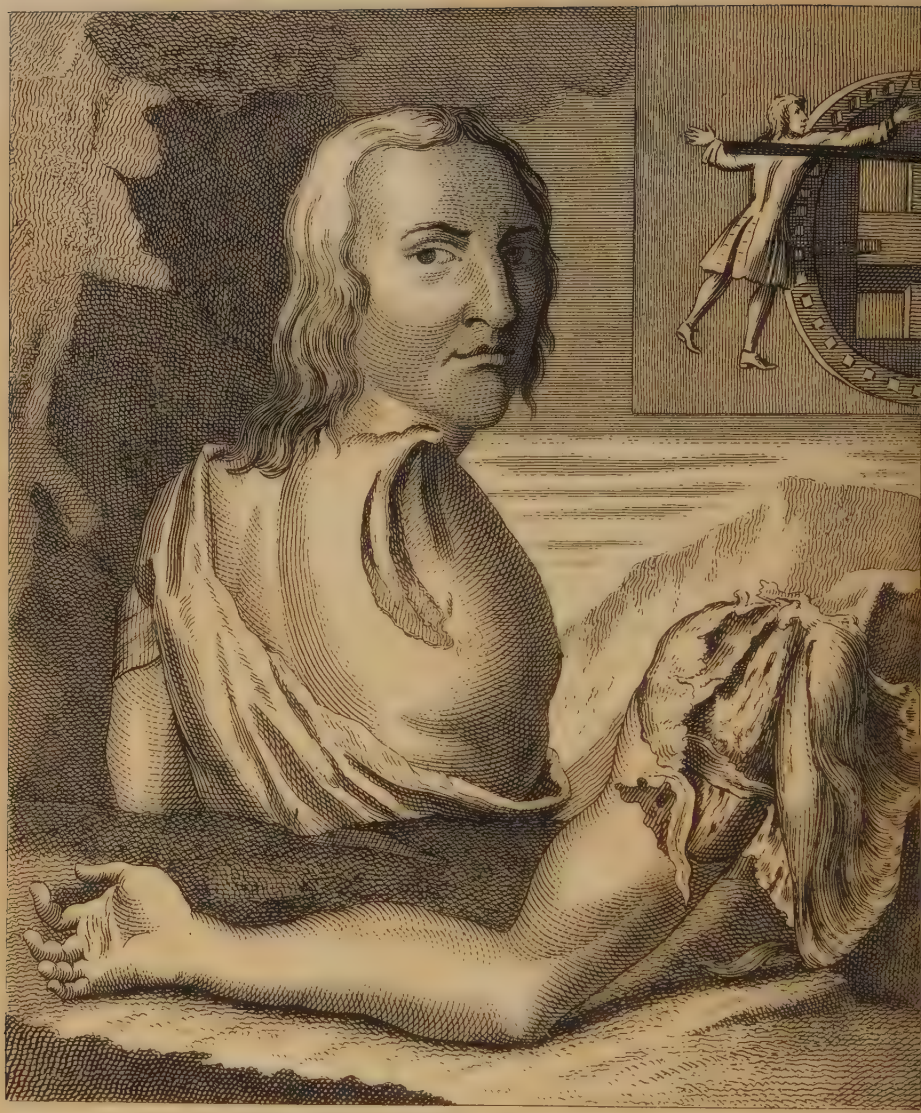
JOSHUA WARD was one of the younger sons of an ancient and respectable family, settled at *Guisborough*, *Yorkshire*, where he was born, at some period in the seventeenth century. He seems, from every description of him, to have had small advantages from education, though he indisputably possessed no mean natural parts. The first account we have of him is, that he was associated in partnership with a brother, named *William*, as a dry-salter, in *Thames-street*. After they had carried on this business some time, a fire broke out in an adjoining house, which communicating itself to their warehouses, entirely destroyed all their property. On this occasion, *Mr. Ward*, with a gentleman, who was on a visit to him, escaped over the tops of the houses, almost in a state of nudity. In the year 1717, he was returned member for *Marlborough;* but, by a vote of the House of Commons, dated May 13, was declared not duly elected. It is imagined that he was in some

Dr JOSHUA WARD.

measure connected with his brother, *John Ward*, (who is stigmatized by *Mr. Pope*, Dunciad iii. 34.) in secreting and protecting illegally the property of some of the *South-sea* directors. Be this as it may, he soon after fled from England, resided some years abroad, and was supposed to have adopted the Roman Catholic faith. During his exile, he acquired the knowledge of medicine and chemistry, which afterwards enabled him to rise to a condition of affluence. About the year 1733, he began to practise physic, and combated for some time the united efforts of wit, learning, argument, ridicule, malice, and jealousy, by all of which he was opposed in every shape that can be suggested. At length, by some cures, and particularly one which he happily effected on a relation of Sir *Joseph Jekyl*, master of the rolls, he got the better of his opponents, and was suffered to practise undisturbed. From this time his reputation was established: he was exempted, by a vote of the House of Commons, from being visited by the censors of the College of Physicians; and was even called in to the assistance of King George II., whose hand he cured, and received, as a reward, a commission for his nephew, the late *General Gansel*. He acquired considerable popularity, by distributing gratuitously to

the poor his medicines and advice, and on many occasions pecuniary assistance. Indeed, in these particulars, his conduct was entitled to every degree of praise; and though his deportment was rough and forbidding, he was not wanting in the true benevolence of mind. After a continued series of success, he died, Dec. 21, 1761, at a very advanced age, and left the secret of his medicines to Mr. *Page*, member for *Chichester*, who bestowed them on two charitable institutions. His will is printed in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1762, p. 208.





SAMUEL WOOD,

(The Miller.)

Published by H. R. Young, 56. Paternoster Row.

Samuel Wood.

THIS man, a native of Worcestershire, was employed by a miller on the Isle of Dogs, nearly opposite Greenwich. On the 15th of August, 1737, being engaged as usual in the duty of the mill, he, unfortunately, at the time it was in full action, became entangled in the cogs of the wheel, which, carrying him completely round, placed him in the most imminent peril of his life, and lacerated his arm from his body. He was providentially thrown on a quantity of meal, but lay for a considerable time in a helpless condition before he was discovered; and, on the day following the accident, was conveyed to St. Thomas's Hospital, Southwark, where he remained until a perfect cure was effected by surgeon Ferne.

With the money he collected, and the assistsnce of some friends, he was enabled, after his discharge from the hospital, to open a public-house in the Mile-end-road, and was living there in the year 1763. He also obtained the situation of a custom-house-officer.

Little Will,

WAITER AT THE TURK'S-HEAD COFFEE-HOUSE.

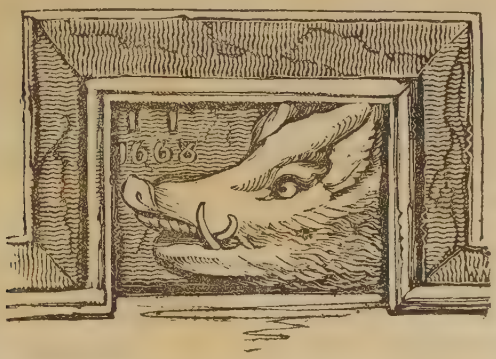
In almost every coffee-house or tavern within the metropolis, there is in general some one or other of the attendants more particularly a favourite with the frequenters of the house than the rest; and it is not an uncommon circumstance for a principal waiter to take his master's place in the event of his decease, or in case of failure in business. *Little Will* was waiter at the Turk's-head Coffee-house, which in his time was very much noted for the free discussion of politics; and where the affairs of the nation agitated the brains of the company, beyond the consideration of their own private concerns. *Little Will* was in his person a perfect *Ragotin*, of a squat figure, large head, awkward, and very clumsily limbed; and, as if to render himself more particularly noticed, had a trick of continually playing with his thumbs; yet, with all these personal disadvantages, Little Will was a man of sound sense and discernment. The Rev. Mr.

LITTLE WILL,

(At the Turks Head Coffee-house.)

Huddesford, of Trinity College, Oxford, writing to Granger, author of the Biographical History of England, says, "*Little Will*, as I have heard, was a great favorite with the gentlemen of the coffee-house; there is a print representing him in his constant attitude, apparently insensible to every thing around him; but swallowing every article of politics that dropped, which, I am told, he understands better than any of his masters."

In *Will's* time, waiters were not the smart spruce fellows as they are of the present day; a clean white apron served all the purposes of a napkin to wipe the glasses; and it is with this insignia of office, and a pair of snuffers pendent from the apron-string, that our little coffee-house politician is delineated.—His portrait was taken in the year 1752.



Catherine Warman.

CATHERINE WARMAN, though descended from a Scotch family, was a native of Prussia; her father, John Ross, went from the place of his nativity in the north of Scotland, into Germany, and probably entered the service of the King of Prussia in a military capacity, his daughter Catherine being born a subject of that king, at Berlin, in May, 1648. Her family appear to have been enthusiastic royalists, and intimately connected with others of like description. Captain Kettle, of Town Malden, in Kent, who followed the fortunes of King Charles II., and attended that monarch in several of his visits to the courts in Germany, was Catherine's godfather, and seems to have had her under his particular care and protection: for, at the restoration of Charles II., so overjoyed was he at the event, that he caused his god-daughter's feet to be washed in claret. At what period of her life she was deprived of this friend and protector does not appear; or, whether he made any sort of provision for her future support. Soon after the restoration, Captain

CATHERINE WARMAN.

Kettle returned to his native country, accompanied by his god-daughter Catherine, who afterwards married James Walker, a Scotchman, and resided with him in the city of Glasgow. After his decease she married Hugh Warman, a soldier, who was under the Duke of Monmouth, in the unfortunate engagement at Taunton, which terminated in His Grace being taken prisoner, the total defeat of his army, and his subsequent execution on Tower-hill. What became of Hugh Warman after Monmouth's defeat is not noticed; but it appears he had deserted his wife long previous to his joining in the rising of the west, as she received alms from the parish of St. Martin's-in-the-fields, from the year 1680 to the time of her death. She was a woman of a lively disposition, and happy in an excellent memory; and frequently diverted herself and those about her, by recounting several incidents which happened in the time of the memorable civil war. This she was the better enabled to do, as having learnt many interesting particulars in her childhood from her god-father, Captain Kettle, and probably from the information of her father, and other friends.

Catherine Warman lived to the very advanced age of one hundred and seven years, and died on the 15th

of February, 1755, retaining her hearing and memory to the last. Her corpse was attended by fifteen old women, all out of one house, whose ages together amounted to 1211 years, the youngest being seventy-five years of age. The house mentioned as containing these venerable matrons must have been either St. Martin's work-house, or the alms-houses belonging to that parish, situate in Hog-lane, now Crown-street, Soho; but lately a modern building has been erected in Bayham-street, Camden Town, to which the present poor alms-women have been removed; as the old alms-houses in Crown-street are about to be taken down, for the purpose of a projected improvement in that neighbourhood.

In the likeness preserved of Catherine Warman, she is represented in a woollen cloak, on which is affixed a badge, with the initial letters S. M. P., for St. Martin's parish. To commemorate the era of her birth, she holds in her hand a scroll, on which is given a portrait of King Charles I.

END OF THE FOURTH AND LAST VOLUME.

W. Lewis, Printer, Finch-lane, London.

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